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JPRS L/8972

12 March 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 11/80)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

MALAYSIAN COUPLE ARRESTED--Federal police have arrested a Malaysian couple in Sydney after they allegedly tried to import 1.5 kilos of heroin into Australia. The heroin was estimated by police to have a street value of \$700,000. The arrests followed by the discovery of two unclaimed bags at the Sydney International Terminal yesterday. The couple were arrested today when they attempted to pick up the bags. They are to appear in court tomorrow. [Text] [OW141345 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Feb 80 OW]

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

KOREAN AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLER ARRESTED--Kobe Feb 12 KYODO--Police have arrested a South Korean freighter crewman for allegedly smuggling two kilograms of amphetamines from South Korea with a street value of yen 600 million. Police said they arrested Choi Jae Hong here Saturday while he was carrying the drugs in a paper bag. His frozen fish carrier, Che Dong Ho No. 12, arrived at Uno port west of here Friday. Choi was suspected of having ties with a major drug dealer in Pusan and attempting to set a sales route for the drugs in Japan, according to police. [Text] Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 12 Feb 80 OW]

AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLERS--Kobe Feb 12 KYODO--Police have arrested two persons for allegedly attempting to smuggle 1 kilogram of amphetamines from South Korea with street value of about yen 300 million. Police said Hatsuo Hirakawa and Toshiaki Yatabe, both of Hiroshima Prefecture, tried to smuggle the drug in two bags hidden in stone lanterns they imported from South Korea in January. Another unidentified man is wanted by police in connection with the case. The lanterns were found in a container aboard a South Korean freighter at Kobe port here, the world busiest container base handling more than 20 million tons of containerized cargo a year, according to police. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 12 Feb 80 OW]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER TO BE OPENED IN SARAWAK

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 8 Dec 79 pp 27, 28

[Excerpts]

KUCHING. — It has been a long time coming but at last Sarawak's proposed Drug Rehabilitation Centre has been given the official go-ahead.

The unit will be based at the former Centre for Protective Custody near Kuching airport. Once a detention camp for communist terrorists and subversives the centre has been empty for two years.

For while the federal authorities were dragging their bureaucratic feet on the matter of formal recognition, the Sarawak government had also been slow in pressing ahead with some of the more mundane details. It was only last month it finally got round to calling for tenders to supply food for the new centre.

"Everything else has been sorted out and if it wasn't for the food problem the centre could start operating immediately," commented the state's Assistant Welfare Minister, Puan Hafsah Harun.

Puan Hafsah is also vice-president of the Sarawak branch of the Federal Prevention of Drug Abuse Association (PEMADAM). The branch was formed 18 months ago and among its other responsibilities, will be charged with the day-to-day running of

the rehabilitation centre.

The development of this centre, the first of its kind in Sarawak, adds a vital weapon to the already extensive anti-drug arsenal available to the relevant state authorities.

There are already three centres operating in Peninsular Malaysia and the federal government has plans to build three more.

Since the end of 1976, Kuching's drug addicts have been treated in the Mile Seven Sarawak Mental Hospital, just outside the state capital. According to welfare officials all the patients treated in the drug section were heroin addicts with ages ranging from 37 to as low as 15.

And it is heroin addiction which is now causing the greatest concern. Prior to 1965 the main drug being used was marijuana (otherwise known as ganja, pot, grass, hash or kif).

This is no longer the case. Police records show that almost 3,000 grams of heroin — a potentially lethal narcotic derived from opium — have been seized in the last two years. And this is almost certainly just the tip of the iceberg.

According to PEMADAM there are more than 800 known addicts in the state and more than another 2,000 who are drug abusers.

This compares favourably with Singapore's estimated 10,000 addicts and the situation in Peninsular Malaysia where more than 36,000 people are involved in misusing drugs, 90 percent of whom are under 20.

Yet Sarawak's authorities can't afford to be complacent. According to First Division police chief, Mr Vincent Khoo, the number of addicts in Kuching is on the increase with the trend being towards more and more teenagers falling prey to drug pushers.

While it is difficult to quantify this trend, the situation in neighbouring Brunei suggests drug use is increasingly rapidly in Borneo. In 1975 there was only one court case involving drugs. Last year the figure topped the 30 mark, a dramatic jump.

For a long time Sarawak's drug laws only provided for fines and short jail sentences. This situation underwent a significant change in June last year when the Federal Dangerous Drugs Ordinance was extended to Sarawak.

Under this, a person convicted of possessing five or more grams of heroin or morphine (another opium derivative) can be jailed for 14 years, with strokes of the rotan as well.

Anyone found with 100 grams or more of heroin or morphine, 1,000 grams of prepared opium or 200 grams of ganja can be sentenced to death or jailed for life, again with a whipping.

The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance is also in force in Sabah while Brunei's Misuse of Drugs Act is almost as tough, but stops short of the death penalty. Under this act, also brought into effect 18 months ago, users of controlled drugs can be jailed for 10 years and fined \$20,000. For pushers the penalties are even tougher — 30 years and a \$50,000 fine, plus 15 strokes of the rotan.

This tightening of Borneo's drug laws was largely a response to the increasing flow of drugs through and into the area. According to Malaysia's Director-General of Customs, Datuk Abdul Rahim, this stems from the fact drug syndicates are now making use of Borneo airports, especially Kuching and Kota Kinabalu, as a new route to shift supplies from the Golden Triangle to other countries, such as Hongkong.

He added this had happened because drug traffickers were finding difficulty in beating the detection system in Peninsular Malaysia.

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MALAYSIA

MEETING RECOMMENDS REGIONAL EFFORT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Dec 79 p 15

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — The Government will study the need to introduce laws on confiscation of property and assets of dadah traffickers, Deputy Home Affairs Minister Tan Sri Syed Ahmad Shahbuddin said today.

He gave the assurance the Government would give the "highest consideration" to this recommendation, one of 13 adopted by the fourth meeting of Asean dadah experts here.

In closing the five-day meeting, Tan Sri Syed Ahmad said the Government would forward all recommendations to the National Executive Action Unit of the Cabinet Committee on Dadah Control for review and implementation.

He was pleased to note that the meeting had accepted the Government's offer to establish an Asean Monitoring and Coordinating Centre for the purpose of identifying training requirements and manpower needs, availability of resources and as well as coordinated implementation efforts related to dadah abuse prevention and control.

Information bank

The Government, he assured them, would establish this secretariat as soon as possible.

The meeting also recommended that a collaborative feasibility study on dadah abuse be undertaken within Asean to develop a regional information bank, a proposal made by Home Af-

fairs Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie.

Tan Sri Syed Ahmad said the Government would move rapidly to establish the necessary format for the commencement of the study.

Asean, he said, could jointly implement the "action-oriented" recommendations and, with the support of other nations and organisations, try to create a dadah-free society.

Earlier, chairman of the meeting, Tan Sri Osman Cassim, said the recommendations include:

● A training centre to be established in Thailand for ASEAN dadah enforcement officers.

● The United States Government is to be approached to consider the following:

● awarding of scholar-

ships and specialised training fellowships within Asean or in the U.S. for social workers, occupational therapists, psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses and other key personnel working in the field of treatment and rehabilitation;

● provision of technical assistance in the establishment of an Asean training centre in Malaysia for treatment and rehabilitation of dadah dependents.

● an Asean training centre for preventive dadah education covering training, research and extension services to be located in the Philippines.

Tan Sri Cassim hoped these recommendations would meet with appropriate responses from Governments and the Asean Secretariat.

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MALAYSIA

ENCIK YAKOB, PIONEER IN DRUG REHABILITATION

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 8 Dec 79 pp 28, 29

[Excerpts] In Sarawak recently as a guest of the state government was the founder and president of Help Centre, a drug rehabilitation centre in Ipoh, Encik Yakob bin Abdul Rahman Scholer, generally recognized as one of Malaysia's pioneers in drug rehabilitation.

Encik Yakob was the first person to establish a drug rehabilitation centre in Malaysia -- in Ipoh in 1973 -- and this centre led to an awareness in official circles that Malaysia was facing a drug rehabilitation problem and all subsequent activities have stemmed from that time.

A German, Encik Yakob first arrived in Malaysia as a member of a Christian religious order, the Brothers of Mercy, which specializes in medical and social work.

In June 1973, Encik Yakob met his first drug addict, who was, by coincidence, a member of the first family he had met on his arrival in Malaysia 10 years earlier.

This addict, knowing Encik Yakob, approached him, confessed to being a drug addict and asked for help.

Within a few days, friends of the addict heard about this and they too approached Encik Yakob and asked for help.

Because it was impossible for him to keep an eye on these addicts 24 hours a day, Encik Yakob decided he would have to group them all together in a separate house in order that, with the help of volunteer assistants, he would be able to exert some form of control over their activities.

With assistance from wellwishers and social bodies, the house was furnished and opened in October 1973 -- the first drug rehabilitation centre in Malaysia.

The centre, however, turned out to be a total failure from the rehabilitation point of view and eventually Encik Yakob realized that he was making no progress.

The centre was dirty, smelly and untidy and the addicts were forever running off to town, getting a dose of drugs and then returning to the centre to sleep off the affects.

Encik Yakob heard of a Catholic priest in the Philippines who was reported to be making excellent progress in a drug rehabilitation centre he had founded.

Encik Yakob decided to visit this centre to see their methods in the hope of finding out where he was going wrong.

In order to show Encik Yakob how his own centre was run, the priest invited him to stay in the centre for a week as a "guest." On entering the centre, Encik Yakob was treated as though he was an ordinary resident -- as though, in fact, he was another addict seeking a cure.

And, to make matters harder, the staff of the centre attempted, in the week he was there, to put Encik Yakob through what a normal resident would take two years to experience.

"I found the centre's method was mainly a personality development programme with the object of making the residents more responsible for their own actions and at the same time developing in them such moral values as honesty, trust, work dedication, responsibility and other moral and spiritual values."

One example of the centre's methods: On one occasion, Encik Yakob, having been in the centre for two days after sweeping out his dormitory, left the broom he had been using in what he considered to be a perfectly suitable spot.

And for this he was punished, for that "perfectly suitable spot" was not where the broom should have been left -- he should have put the broom in its proper place

And his punishment?

The broom was tied to Encik Yakob's back and there it stayed for the next three days.

Wherever he went, the broom stayed on Encik Yakob's back, even when he slept.

"The whole idea," Encik Yakob explains, "was to show that if a person is careless over small matters, then he will also be careless over important matters."

Back in Ipoh with renewed determination and fresh hope, Encik Yakob immediately began putting into practice what he had learned in the Philippines, much to the horror and dismay of the majority of the residents of his Help Centre.

Within 24 hours, 75 percent of the residents had absconded, leaving only four or five remaining.

Within a week of his return, the "dirty, smelly, filthy" Help Centre became clean and tidy.

The residents were no longer permitted to laze about on their beds for

half the day but were kept occupied with a variety of tasks from morning until night.

The use of drugs in the detoxification of addicts was scrapped on the spot and a new system introduced.

This consisted of keeping the addicts continually busy with one task after another in order to take their minds off the withdrawal pains they were experiencing.

And if at night they were unable to sleep, they were kept working -- until dawn if need be -- until they finally fell asleep through sheer exhaustion, sometimes to sleep for 16 or 18 hours.

In this way, even those with severe withdrawal pains were able to go through the process quite lightly.

Group therapy sessions were also introduced and through this method the addicts were gradually brought to realise their own worth.

"But to get the full benefit of our rehabilitation course, the residents should stay with us for 18 months to two years."

"Those who have completed the full course so far number 25, of whom only one has reverted to drugs, which gives us a success rate of 96 percent, which is yet to be achieved by any other rehabilitation system."

"Those inmates who leave the centre after a stay of eight months or more have given us a success rate of 40 percent, while those staying less than eight months have achieved a success rate of only 10 percent."

Funds for the two Help Centres Encik Yakob runs come from parents' contributions, from a nominal grant from the Perak state government and from substantial support from the Muslim Welfare Association, Perak, whose president, former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, is one of the centres' most enthusiastic supporters.

Encik Yakob's two centres now have 100 residents, supervised by 24 staff, 14 of whom are themselves former drug addicts.

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MALAYSIA

MORE HALFWAY HOUSES PLANNED FOR KUALA LUMPUR AREA

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Dec 79 p 11

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Pemadam will set up six "half-way houses" for the after-care of rehabilitated dadah addicts in Petaling Jaya next year.

Pemadam secretary-general Mustapha Ma said this would ease the burden on the present half-way house at its headquarters at Bukit Petaling here.

The centre at present cares for 25 ex-dadah dependents. They are given counselling and religious education, do gardening and play games as motivation to become useful members of society.

The ex-addicts get free food and accommodation but have to look after themselves.

Encik Mustapha said this when briefing 55 Asean delegates at a drug seminar here, when they visited Pemadam headquarters yesterday.

He told the delegates Pemadam Selangor was also going to convert an under-used T.B. sanatorium at Morib, into a detention, processing and comprehensive rehabilitation centre for 200 people.

This project will relieve over-congestion in police lock-ups, and give more time to separate the addicts from the pushers.

Pemadam now operates two day care centres, one in Klang and the other in Jalan Clifford here, each with 25 ex-dadah addicts.

The ex-addicts attend the centres voluntarily or under supervision.

Encik Mustapha spoke on plans to build a 33-acre camp at Sungai Besi to be run on a day-care centre basis. It will have 150 people.

"It will be modelled on an outward bound school concept to re-motivate the disoriented ex-addicts," he said.

He said Pemadam's many dialogue sessions, training courses, rallies, brochures and films have shown positive results in educating the people on the dangers of dadah.

"There's a growing recognition and acceptance that the dadah problem is basically a human one rather than a dadah problem per se," he added.

Encik Mustapha added that Pemadam hoped to increase its membership fourfold in the next decade as its present 10,000 members were less than one third of the registered dadah dependents in the country.

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MALAYSIA

MALAYAN RAILWAY SEEKS DRUG USERS AMONG EMPLOYEES

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 9 Dec 79 p 12

[Excerpt] **IPOH, Sat. — The Malayan Railway is giving those of its employees who are on dadah "another chance" to own up and get treatment.**

The railway's Head of Personnel, Enclik Mohamed Zin bin Yusop, said those who surrendered themselves will be given medical attention on no pay leave. Disciplinary action will also be taken against them but this will not amount to a dismissal, he said.

"However, if they choose to keep quiet and are caught and convicted in court, there will be no second chance. They will be dismissed," he said.

Enclik Mohamed Zin said many were afraid to own up for fear of dismissal because the grace period had lapsed.

He was one of the five speakers who lectured on dadah at the launching here of Malayan Railway's campaign on the dangers of dadah abuse.

He said a Public Services Commission's

circular sent in September 1976 gave government servants who were on dadah three months to own up to receive treatment.

The circular specified that no action for dismissal would be taken against them if they owned up during the grace period.

Enclik Mohamed Zin said a railway employee who owned during that grace period was not dismissed. There were no cases in 1977. Last year, one employee was dismissed.

This year, eight dadah cases were identified, most of them arrested by the police. One of them was dismissed because of the severity of his offence. Another had his salary deferred while action against the remaining six was still pending.

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MALAYSIA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS, SENTENCES REPORTED

Heroin Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Dec 79 p 15

[Excerpt]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Construction worker Tan Yau, 22, who led a police officer to the recovery of drugs buried in the ground beside his house, was today sentenced to five years' jail by the Sessions Court.

Court President Puan Siti Norma binti Yaakob also ordered that Tan be given six strokes of the rotan.

Tan was found guilty of possessing 29.06 grammes of heroin at an unnumbered house at Jalan Ipoh at 6 p.m. on June 4, 1977.

Another construction worker, Shim Sool Hon, 22, who was jointly charged with Tan, was acquitted without his defence being called.

In his defence, Tan told the court the drugs found beside his house did not belong to him.

He admitted that the drugs police found in his house belonged to him.

Trial of Heroin Smugglers

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Dec 79 p 9

[Text]

KLANG, Fri. — The prosecution in a dadah trial involving 676gm of heroin submitted to the Sessions Court here that the two accused had tried to smuggle the dadah to Europe in order to finance their essential oils venture.

DPP Abu Seman Yusop said from the evidence the men, Mokhtar bin Minin and Ibrahim Ahmad, had been interested in setting up a venture dealing in minyak limau and minyak nilam but they could not come up with about \$1 million needed to get the venture off the ground.

"They were stuck in obtaining the capital for their venture so they suggested that a European named Gerard Marx carry a heroin consignment to Europe," he said.

He said Mokhtar's desperate attempt to get the capital led them to get involved in an international drug trafficking venture.

Encik Abu Seman was making his submission at the joint trial of Mokhtar, 40, and Ibrahim, 38, before Court President Mohamed Ali bin Abdul Aziz.

Mokhtar is charged with preparing to traffic in dadah when he bought two air tickets on Aug. 6, 1977 in Kangar for himself and another man to transport 676gm of heroin from Kuala Lumpur to Amsterdam.

Ibrahim is charged with trafficking 676gm of heroin on Aug. 9, 1977 at Jayapuri Hotel in Petaling Jaya.

In his one hour submission, Encik Abu Seman said Mokhtar was not in a position to meet the expected \$1 million capital as he had only a savings of \$30,000 and his monthly income was about \$1,000.

He said from the evidence of Mokhtar and Ibrahim, both were interested in setting up the business but Mokhtar's rice dealing business was not doing well and so the scheme to smuggle the dadah to Europe came into his mind.

He said the court should decide whether the accused know that the dadah were in the suitcases.

Defence Counsel Yaacob Karim in a two-hour submission contended that both accused had no knowledge of the dadah in the suitcases that they were carrying.

He said they were merely assisting Marx by bringing his suitcases down to Kuala Lumpur from Penang.

He contended that Marx knew the suitcases contained dadah and soon after Mokhtar and Ibrahim were arrested, he left the country.

Judgment will be delivered Dec. 17.

Heroin Acquittal

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Dec 79 p 13

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — A herbal tea seller was acquitted by the Sessions Court today on a charge of having dadah.

Chan Hon alias Chan Hong Kong, 37, was charged with having 11.6gm of heroin at a house in Jalan Beruang on May 13, 1977.

His daughter, Miss Chan Kwai Kiew, 18, a student, told the court that she often helped her father at night at his herbal tea stall at Jalan Pasar, Pudu.

She said on May 12, 1977, a man came to the stall and asked her to keep a plastic bag for him.

Miss Chan said the man told her that a woman would come to collect the bag later.

She said he also told her that if the woman gave her any money, she should keep it and give it to him later.

Miss Chan said: "I do this kind of thing very often as a favour to my customers."

She said nobody came for the parcel and so they had to take it home.

Next day, the police came to Chan Hon's house.

Chan Hon told the court he handed the plastic bag to the police telling them that someone had left it at his stall.

In this bag, wrapped in a Chinese newspaper the police found two packets of light brown powder which was later ascertained as 11.6gm of dadah.

Life Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Dec 79 p 1

[Text]

ADOR STAR, Sun. ---
The Sessions Court today sentenced housewife Mariam binte Awang, 41, to life imprisonment when she was convicted of trafficking in 389.2 grammes of ganja. Mariam committed the offence at a Chinese cemetery off Jalan Stadium at 5.30 p.m. on Dec. 11 last year. Court president Encik Abu Bakar bin Awang said he was satisfied with the prosecution's evidence and had no doubt that Mariam was in possession of the ganja for the purpose of trafficking. Encik Abu Bakar said he could not accept Mariam's defence that the ganja did not belong to her. He told Mariam that life imprisonment was the only sentence he could impose under the law. He said she was spared from whipping because she was a woman. Chief Inspector Inder Singh Dhillon, who prosecuted, said Mariam was arrested after a tip-off. The ganja was found in a plastic packet and a tin.

Morphine Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Dec 79 p 17

[Text]

IPOH, Wed. --- A woman, Chugh Giek Moy, 47, of Pantai Remis, was today sentenced to three years' jail when she pleaded guilty in the Sessions Court here to having 46.38 grammes of morphine. She had originally claimed trial but changed her plea after some witnesses gave evidence.

Kuala Lumpur Arrests

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Dec 79 p 4

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. --- City police have this year arrested 601 suspected dadah addicts in possession of heroin (505), morphine (10), ganja (73) and opium (13). In 1978, they arrested 696 suspected addicts in possession of heroin, 17 for morphine, 32 for ganja and 29 for opium. Police said the general decrease in arrests had been due to the shortage of dadah in the market because of tighter police action in preventing the flow of dadah into the city.

Penang Arrests

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Dec 79 p 7

[Text] **PENANG, Sat. —** Police narcotic squad have detained five suspected dadah pushers and seized 50gm of ganja and 83 tubes of heroin over the past two days.

Acting on a tip-off a police party from the narcotic squad laid an ambush at Presgrave Street about 3.30 p.m. two days ago.

On seeing the police, a 26-year-old suspect ran away when he came out of a house but was caught after a short chase.

Police also detained a 56-year-old man who was found in the kitchen of the house, allegedly filling small tubes with dadah believed to be heroin.

They seized 53 tubes from both suspects.

In two separate raids yesterday, police detained a couple in a hotel room in Tanjong Tokong and recovered 50 packets of ganja. In Katz street, they detained a man and seized 30 tubes of heroin.

Police are mounting pressure against dadah addicts and are raiding known drug dens daily.

Singapore Arrest

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Dec 79 p 13

[Text] **CHEONG Lian Hew, 65,** was yesterday jailed for one month for having 651.2 grams of opium at a house in Tanjong Pagar Road on Nov 26 at 12.05 p.m.

He was also jailed for a week for having an opium pipe which was stained with the drug. The sentences are to run concurrently. Cheong pleaded guilty to both charges.

Addict Fined

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 1 Dec 79 p 18

[Text] **KOTA KINABALU.—** A 25-year-old shopkeeper found himself facing two magistrates on drug charges, and ended up \$2,000 poorer as a result, as the sequel to a police raid on his business.

He was fined \$1,000 when he appeared before magistrate Encik James Vitalis for possession of 1.57 grammes of heroin, and a similar penalty from Puan Norhibah binte Mohammad Tahir for having 1.09 grammes of cannabis.

Ahmad Basir Khan, whose Sabahan Trading Sundry is at Tanjung Aru, Kota Kinabalu, admitted being an addict and asked for leniency saying he wanted the chance to turn over a new leaf.

He was arrested when police, acting on a tip-off, raided his premises last February 3. He tried to flee but was grabbed, police finding a parcel under his bed: the contents were sent for analysis and found to be drugs.

Opium Sentence

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 15 Dec 79 p 3

[Text]

KUCHING. — An undertaker's assistant who claimed he has taken opium to cure his asthma since the Japanese occupation of Borneo during World War Two has been sentenced to jail and a fine for possessing a smoking pipe and opium.

Kuching District Court magistrate Encik Thomas Akin allowed 53-year-old Lim Ai Kok \$5,000 bail,

plus two sureties, pending his appeal to the High Court over the six months' jail term.

But Encik Akin said although he was allowing a stay of execution over the jail term, Lim, of Ban Hock Road, Kuching, will still have to pay a \$300 fine.

Lim admitted possessing a pipe for smoking opium in his home in Ban Hock Road on May

25 and to possessing 62.1 grammes of opium; he was jailed for possessing the opium and fined for possessing the pipe.

He said he had suffered from asthma since the Japanese occupation and took opium to get rid of the pain; Lim said he did not have a steady job and only earned a little money as a part-time undertaker's assistant.

Encik Akin said he found it strange that if Lim suffered from asthma he did not take modern drugs to cure it rather than opium.

Policeman Jailed

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 22 Dec 79 p 4

[Excerpt]

SIBU. — A police constable stopped and searched by a Rajang Port Authority security guard was carrying heroin as he left an anchored ship at Sibul, magistrate Mr Kho Lik Kiat heard.

Before Sibul District Court charged with possessing 0.982 grams of heroin was Police Constable Marzuki bin Mokhtar, 29, of the 15th Battalion of the Police Field Force at Lanang Camp, Sibul.

Mr Kho jailed him for 12 months.

The court was told that on the night of June 7, 1977, a Rajang Port

Authority security guard in Island Road, Sibul, Mr Arthur Chua Teck Soon, saw Marzuki and a seaman entering the port authority; both men appeared drunk but Marzuki produced his warrant card and said he was taking his friend to his vessel.

The following morning Mr Chua saw the two men again and detained them; with Sergeant Lau Ing Ping and Mr Ting Bang Hung, both port authority security guards, Mr Chua searched Marzuki and found a cigarette packet containing what was later analysed by a government chemist in Kuching to be heroin.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

APPEALS COURT SENTENCES TRAFFICKER TO DEATH

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Dec 79 pp 1, 24

[Excerpts]

PENANG, Wed. — Judges should not develop a phobia against inflicting the death penalty where a case justifies it, the Chief Justice, Raja Azlan Shah, said today.

"We feel the time has now come for some more vigorous element of deterrence to be brought to bear upon those trafficking in drugs," he added.

The Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Chang Min Tat and Mr Justice Eusoffe Abdoolcader, was delivering judgment allowing a cross appeal by the DPP Encik Mohamed Noor bin Haji Ahmad against the inadequacy of a sentence of life imprisonment and 14 strokes of the rotan imposed by the Penang High Court on confectioner Hong Hoo Chong, 40.

The Federal Court set aside the term of imprisonment for life and whipping imposed on Hong by Mr Justice Gunn Chit Tuan and substituted it with a death sentence.

The court had earlier dismissed an appeal by Hong against his conviction for trafficking in 1,550.1 gm of heroin at the car park of Central Hotel in Penang Road on March 24, 1978.

In asking the Federal Court to impose the death sentence on Hong in the first ever appeal by the public prosecutor against the imposition of a life sentence for dadah trafficking, DPP Encik Mohamed Noor said Hong was a convicted armed robber and burglar who had turned dadah trafficker.

"We should regard him as public enemy No. 1 who is a danger and a menace to society and therefore, the death sentence should be the only way to exterminate him from society," he submitted.

In his judgment, the Chief Justice said there had been several convictions in the country for

trafficking in dadah but the courts had invariably sought, out of a sense of compassion, to exercise mercy and had imposed

accordingly only the second alternative of a sentence of life imprisonment.

He said the sentence in a criminal case must bear relation to the particular circumstances of the offender and the offence.

"There would appear to be no redeeming features but the learned judge states in his grounds of judgment that after some hesitation in considering the sentence to be imposed he decided he would give the appellant one more chance, presumably in the stock phrase to turn over a new leaf.

"In our view the learned judge had the perspicience to see the special malignancy of the offence and the antecedents of the offender but not the courage to reflect it in the sentence.

"We are of the view that he was clearly in error which entitles this court to interfere.

"We are of the view that in the circumstances of the appellant's case, the imposition of a term of imprisonment for life is wholly inadequate."

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

HEROIN MOST WIDELY USED DRUG IN PERAK STATE

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 9 Dec 79 p 12

[Text]

IPOH, Sat. — Heroin is the most widely used drug among dadah addicts in Perak, accounting for 60 per cent of the total dadah market, a police officer said today.

Insp. Zulkifli bin Ahmad, area inspector for Kampung Tawas in Chemor, speaking at a campaign on the danger of dadah abuse here, said heroin was most prominently used by those between the ages of 16 and 35.

He said in 1977 1,186

people were arrested in Perak under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance. The figure rose to 1,274 last year, he added.

He said 1,023 people had been arrested this year.

Under the Emergency Ordinance, he said 83 people were sent to Pulau Jerejak rehabilitation centre in 1977, 92 last year and 59 this year.

Another speaker, Dr Fadzil bin Mohamed Nuri of Hospital Bahagia, said the hospital received drug addicts for detoxification not

only from Perak out from Pahang and Kedah as well.

Dr Fadzil said before the introduction of the Dangerous Drugs Amendment Act of 1977, the hospital's detoxification ward — started in 1975 — handled three categories of cases.

He said these were addicts who came under a court order for treatment related to drug abuse, those who came voluntarily and those found to be addicts under Section 37-B.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

POLICE TO AID ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN AMONG MAORIS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 22 Jan 80 p 40

/Text/

Local detectives are to help in the campaign against drug-taking among Maoris — with a lecture for the city's rahui (ban) support committee on February 12.

The rahui was started late last year by Victoria University Professor of Maori Sidney Mead. It has the support of the Minister of Maori Affairs (Mr Couch), Maori leaders, police and

some education authorities.

A committee member, Mrs June Mead, said they needed to be better informed about drugs and so had accepted a police offer of help.

"We don't even know what drugs look like," said Mrs Mead.

Also to attend will be representatives of the Maori Wardens' Association, the New Zealand Maori Council,

the New Zealand Maori Women's Welfare League and others working in "the Maori world."

Mrs Mead said the committee hoped the police would be asked to run follow-up sessions around the district. The February 12 lecture will be at Wellington Central Police Station.

The police offer follows a statement last month by the assistant deputy Commissioner of Police (Mr Graeme Dallow) welcoming the rahui.

Calling it timely, Mr Dallow said the situation with Maori drug offenders was worsening. He hoped the ban would be taken seriously.

The Rahui support committee, headed by a Ratana Church leader Mr Rino Tirikatene, is seeking official backing through talks with the Health Department.

Help in compiling and printing rahui material for use in schools has been offered by the Maori Affairs and Education Department.

A joint Waitangi Day celebration and rahui promotion is planned for February 6 at Porirua's Maraeroa Marae.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

DRUG OFFENDERS TOTAL IN 1979 HIGHEST RECORDED

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 25 Jan 80 p 12

[Text]

THE availability of heroin on New Zealand streets at the moment is at a very low ebb, the Minister of Police (Mr Gill) said yesterday.

He was releasing the drug statistics for the last calendar year.

The major impact in the statistics was the decrease in heroin seizures and offenders in the last quarter of the year.

Heroin seized during the year increased by 162 grams to 2107 grams.

"Earlier in the year heroin abuse posed a major threat in this country and it

seemed clear at that time that we would outstrip 1975 in terms of total heroin seized.

"However, this did not happen, although the total number of offenders charged with heroin offences — 356 — for 1979 is the most ever recorded in New Zealand's history," Mr Gill said. "I am pleased to report that the 1979 figures show a significant degree of success in the police anti-drug operations."

Mr Gill praised the news media for their part in publicising the drug problem.

He said 5009 people were charged with drug offences in 1979 compared with 3226 the previous year.

"The 1979 total is the highest ever recorded in New Zealand. Compared

with 1977 when a total of 1875 offenders were apprehended, this is a massive increase," he said.

The major age grouping of offenders apprehended remains in the 17 to mid-20s age group. However, a trend, which was noted, is the increasing number of offenders in the 30-40 age group, now represents almost 9 percent of all drug offenders, whereas in earlier years they represented only about 4 percent.

This figure really reflected cannabis usage only, because well over 90 percent of all offenders are apprehended for cannabis offences.

Auckland is still the major centre for drug trafficking as reflected in the statistics followed by Wellington, Christchurch, Rotorua and Hamilton.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

INCREASED HEROIN IMPORTS EXPECTED IN 1980

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 25 Jan 80 p 18

[Text] A bumper poppy crop in the Golden Triangle and the effects of boosted poppy production in some Middle East countries is expected to result in increased heroin imports to New Zealand this year.

According to a spokesman for the National Drug Intelligence Bureau today, indications from the Golden Triangle were that there would be a bumper poppy crop when the harvest begins late next month and early in March.

The Golden Triangle comprises the hill-tribe regions of Thailand, Laos and Burma.

Last year heroin production was down because of a drought in the region.

The bureau spokesman said today that indications were the hill-tribe people had planted a lot more poppies this season. The result would be a bigger crop than before.

"We could see a larger quantity of heroin coming here, but the quality of it will be basically the same as previously."

He said that it was unlikely that, because of the increased crop, the quality would be better.

The breaking down from opium to heroin was a centuries-old recipe.

"I can't see that they will change because of increased supply."

The other factor which

could increase heroin supply in New Zealand this year is the increased production coming out of Middle Eastern countries, possibly due to confused political situations and a consequent partial breakdown in law enforcement.

A short time ago it was reported that Iran had doubled its opium crop.

Along with products of Turkish laboratories, Middle Eastern heroin was inundating the Western European market.

The Bureau spokesman here said that narcotics agents had not seen any Middle East heroin in New Zealand as yet, but increased heroin supply from the Middle East could leave a bigger portion available from the South-East Asian crop.

There had been large seizures of Middle East heroin in Australia, he said.

Asked whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation and United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control joint programme to replace poppy-growing with other crops in Thailand

would have any effect on supply, the spokesman said that the bureau was not sure how successful this had been.

The organisations are trying to convince the hill-tribe people, who grow an estimated 80 percent of the world heroin supply, that crops such as coffee and herbal medicine plants are equally as profitable and marketable as poppies.

Thirty Thai villages have already converted to these alternative crops. Another 75 are expected to do so soon.

An estimated 1000 villages are involved in Thailand's poppy production.

The bureau spokesman said that these people had been growing poppies for generations and generations. It would be difficult to get them to change.

At the end of last year there was a major short-fall in heroin supply in New Zealand.

The bureau puts this down to a number of factors, including the shortage in the Golden Triangle area and pressure here by police and

Customs officers, particularly following the series of drug-related murders in Australia and Britain.

Street prices for heroin in New Zealand vary from day to day and place to place depending on the demand and supply situation.

However, throughout New Zealand the price is always at least \$100 a gram.

NEW ZEALAND

MATURING CANNABIS CROPS SEIZED, MANY ARRESTED

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 25 Jan 80 p 3

[Text]

PA

Auckland

A bumper cannabis crop in Waikato has the police in Auckland and Hamilton hot on the trail of growers and suppliers.

The seizing of one crop in the Matamata area on Wednesday night resulted in 29 arrests in the last two days.

The police in Hamilton and Auckland executed more than two dozen search warrants as one arrest led to another.

Wednesday night's seizing followed another in a maize crop in the same area last week.

The plants, found by the farmer who owns the land, were between 30cm and 180cm tall.

The police said yesterday that conditions had been ideal for maturing cannabis plants recently and that they had made many finds since Christmas.

Big seizures have been made south of Te Kuiti, near Hamilton and in the Matamata and Coromandel areas.

The police traced the crops after tips from tramps, farmers, agricultural workers and holiday-makers.

On Wednesday night, Otahuhu and Hamilton detectives made raids in Matamata and nearby Walton, arresting two men aged 27 and 29.

A short time later the detectives found a crop of mature plants in the same area.

Tracing a network of supply, detectives in Papakura and Otahuhu have arrested 13 men and one woman since Wednesday afternoon.

Three other people not connected with the same source were also arrested during Auckland raids.

All those arrested have been in their late teens or twenties.

Search warrants have been executed in Papakura, Manurewa, Otahuhu, and Meadowbank. Yesterday Auckland's drug squad was also executing warrants as the inquiry spread closer to the city.

At Hamilton, drug squad detectives were working extended hours to keep up

with the workload from the maturing crops.

Most of the plants seized so far have been confined in small pockets, mostly in bush or crops, but the plants are very healthy, the police say.

The police have seized plants, seeds, drying leaves and a few "deal" bags of the cannabis ready for use.

No-one is prepared to estimate how much has been seized so far, but more than a kilogram of cannabis and several LSD tablets have been seized in Auckland since Wednesday.

CSO: 5320

PAKISTAN

DRUG ABUSE CONTROL IN BALUCHISTAN

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 30 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Maj (R) S.M.H. Zidi]

[Excerpt] The province of Baluchistan is vast in area. Its boundaries touch with all other provinces of Pakistan as well as with countries of Afghanistan and Iran. It has approx 300 miles of sea coast of Arabian Sea and has more than one Sea Port and Airport. The Province holds towering craggy peaks of the Suleman ranges and valiant valleys with juniper clad slopes and also fishing ports along Mekran Coast and stretches of Somiani and Gadduaf Beaches. It is sparsely populated with tribes having affiliation with those in Afghan tribal areas and Irani Baluchistan. Hence smuggling of all type of goods which is a profitable proposition is not an uncommon feature. The remote areas have been detected to have cannabis cultivation in cropping patterns.

Illicit Cannabis Cultivation

In October, 1977 about 30 acres of area in Qillah-Saifullah Dist Zhob was detected under illicit Cannabis Cultivation. This detection disclosed the illicit cultivation of cannabis on cropping pattern first time in the country. It has been established that the cultivation is taking place for the last 5-6 years. It is grown in farflung areas subject to availability of water and protection of local influential persons of shabby character. The provincial Government has launched different irrigation schemes, particularly Tube-Well installation and more area is coming under irrigation, therefore, new cropping pattern was being evolved and introduced in the farmers community where cannabis is getting an establish crop rotation.

It was also noted that as Loralai and Zhob are on the main link road of the Province which is one of the important route of illicit trafficking interprovincially and internationally therefore it is being fed from local produce of Charas of these Districts. It was recommended that fact-finding studies have to be started regarding illicit cultivation and sample survey to determine the extent and pattern of cultivation and charas addiction needs immediate consideration.

Drug Addiction

Drug addiction amongst the people of this region was never determined, hence a preliminary survey of 300 persons was carried out by Dr Abdul Aziz Afridi of Drug Abuse Advisery Centre attached to Civil Hospital, Quetta with active support of Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, Quetta in 1977.

This survey revealed that the younger age group was influenced by the gang while the older age group started abuse of drugs because of the inner problems. The drug abuse showed poor work records compared with control group. Another thing observed was that prolonged Cannabis abuse resulted in psychotic breakdown like schizophrenia while the opium addiction gave to variety of depressive illnesses with or without anxiety symptoms.

The multi-drug addicts showed more to the anxiety symptoms. The treatment of the cannabis and alike substances was phenothiazone alone or combined with ECT and result was prompt.

Recently another survey was conducted by Dr Abdul Malik, the successor of Dr Abdul Aziz Afridi. He randomly picked 31 cases from amongst outdoor patients of addiction and his findings were that the number of young addicts is becoming less day by day. There are now hashish eaters and methaqualone smokers. The earliest age of addiction is 15 years and the duration of addiction ranges from 1 to 15 years. In this respect studies in depth would be taken up with a view to controlling the drug abuse.

Law Enforcement

To check the increase in illicit production, demand and trafficking of the drug, last 5 years have been some remarkable activities in this province both in prevention and law enforcement fields. Pakistan Narcotics Control Board established its Regional Office in Baluchistan in May, 1975 and by now succeeded in the developing the programmes of drug abuse control in the related fields substantially.

The following enactments, other than those prevalent in the country were remarkably effective in Drug Abuse control in the province.

1. The Baluchistan Control on possession and consumption on Drug Act, 1973, as amended in 1976 to enlarge its scope to barbiturates, methaqualone, amphetamines and gulthemide.
2. Martial Law Order No 10 of Zone "D" prescribing deterrent punishment to narcotics offenders.

Recently approx 11 tons of opium in 7 trucks and one tanker was seized by Custom, Levies and Frontier Constabulary in the province. These seizures indicate the increase of production opium in NWFP, the direction of trafficking toward Iran and the vigilance of our Law enforcement agencies.

The Health Department by establishing Drug Abuse Advisory Centre in 1977 in the premises of Sandeman Civil Hospital, Quetta with active support of Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, has fulfilled the pressing need of the community. It has carried out survey of 250 drug abusers with the help of Social Welfare Department under guidance of Dr Abdul Aziz Afridi, and is doing useful treatment work under the present incumbent Dr Abdul Mali. It is hoped that the centre would have its own indoor treatment facility soon. The social Welfare Department is embarking upon having a full-fledged rehabilitation centre with improved facilities. The Health Department is also implementing following recommendations of District Narcotics Control Committee:

1. Whenever narcotics substance is imported to the manufacturing factory, it should be properly supervised by DHO, Drug Inspector against its abuse.
2. The Health Directorate may issue strict instructions to Government doctors to prescribe the narcotics drugs only when it is badly needed.
3. The proper control on sale of narcotics drug should be enforced by DHO and Drug Inspector.
4. The Baluchistan control on possession and consumption of Drug Act, 1973 should be fully enforced by officers of Health Department especially by DHOs, Assistant Director (Medical) and Drug Inspector.
5. Health Educator Machinery be geared up and all possible means of mass media like TV, radio, newspapers be utilized to acquaint general public in regard to dangerous effects of narcotics drugs. Pesh Imams of Mosques and Schoolteachers can play an important role in this field of activities.
6. Deputy Commissioners should keep close watch on the illicit cultivation of poppy and bhang in their district and Tehsildars/Niab Tehsildars should be asked to be vigilant.
7. Excise and taxation staff be suitably reinforced at district and divisional level.
8. Civil armed forces like scouts/BRP while on duty should also be vigilant against narcotics trafficking.
9. The confiscated narcotics should be well protected in Mall Khand sipped at the earliest opportunity.

Prevention and Education and Use of Mass Media

A very notable feature in this connection is the establishment of counselling centres in the colleges in Baluchistan and placement of M.A. Social Work Students for the field work to the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, Quetta by Baluchistan University to carry out the following functions.

1. To conduct study of the organization, administration and functioning of the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board with particular reference to its operation in Baluchistan.
2. To assist in the organization of community campaign for seeking community support and to develop community awareness regarding narcotics control and drug addiction.
3. To assist and help drug addicts and to make effective use of the medical and psychiatric facilities by providing them guidance, counselling, general assistance, and referral and other supportive services.
4. To assist in conducting surveys and researches.

The students although very few have carried out these functions satisfactorily under addiction conditions. We can safely recommend other universities to have their own experience in this context. [as printed]

Use of Media

The general awareness against drug abuse has been created by all the medias of this province, press, TV, radio have shown keen interest in projecting our news of seizures or of any meetings/discussions or seminars without cost. Cinema screens, documentary films were exhibited and signboards, charts were displayed at appropriate places. We have taken quite a good space in the national provincial coverage in these years and have achieved very good results as a whole.

Now that Prohibition Ordinance and by other schemes the drug abuse control programme is being switched over to province, I am sure that the Government of Baluchistan would be more than ready to shoulder full responsibilities in this regard.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

ANTIDOPE PEDDLERS DRIVE--Quetta, Jan 27.--The intensified Police drive against drug addicts and dope pedlars continues here. In their raids at various places around the city, the Police succeeded in rounding up a number of such anti social elements and seized mendrex, marijuana etc in considerable quantity. In yet another raid two other drug addicts, Faqir Mohammad and Abdul Aleem were arrested by the Quetta. One of them Faqir Mohammad, at the site of Police tried to escape by throwing away the dangerous drug, a bottleful of "Mendorex" in a nearby dirty drain but was soon overpowered by the Police. Some more quantity of drug was recovered from his possession. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 28 Jan 80 p 1]

HUGE NARCOTICS SEIZURE--Quetta, Feb. The Galangoor Levies Check Post, near here, seized two hundred and fifty kilogrammes of morphine powder, from a passenger bus. According to an official source, the dangerous drug was contrively concealed in the false roof of the bus. The drug smugglers were attempting to smuggle it across border. The authorities arrested, three persons including the Driver. This has been described as the biggest seizure of narcotics. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 4 Feb 80 p 3]

THREE CHARAS, OPIUM ARRESTS--Excise Staff assisted by police raided on Monday the houses of three persons, Mohammad Farooq, Pathan Khan and Jan Khan and recovered from their possession 1,600 grams of contraband charas and 170 grams of opium. The raid was conducted following an information that Mohammad Farooq of Said Mitha Bazar was dealing in narcotics business. Police raided his house and arrested him with 400 grams of charas. During interrogation he disclosed the name of two other of his accomplices Pathan Khan and Jan Khan residents of Ravi Road, who supplied him these narcotics from Mardan. Police and Excise Staff raided their houses on Ravi Road and recovered from their possession 170 grams of opium and 200 grams of charas. All the three accused were arrested and cases were registered against them under Islamic Law and Anti-Narcotics Act. Investigations are in progress. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 5 Feb 80 p 3]

NARCOTICS BOARD'S SPECIAL TEAM--Quetta, Feb 9--A special team has been constituted by the Narcotics Control Board to probe into the seizure of huge quantity of two hundred and fifty kilogrammes of opium from the Galangoon Levies Barrier near Nushki a few days ago. The opium was being smuggled out of country when it was seized from a passenger bus, during the search. The special team will investigate and try to rope in those involved in the international drug smuggling. [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 10 Feb p 4]

CHARAS, OPIUM SEIZED--Twelve hundred kilograms of charas and 55 kilograms of opium was seized in Mardan, near Khairabad, on the G.T. Road on Thursday. The contraband charas and opium was concealed in secret cavities of a truck bound for Karachi. The truck driver, however, escaped. [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 15 Feb p 1]

AFGHAN DRIVER ARRESTED--Islamabad, 17 Feb--Pakistan customs police arrested an Afghan national driving a truck carrying 18 tons of marijuana worth 1.5 million U.S. dollars, customs sources said Sunday. The cannabis was concealed in secret cavities of the truck driven by Ghulam Aku Khan, believed to be an international smuggler. The truck was headed from Peshawar, a Pakistan frontier town in the heart of one of the world's biggest illicit drug areas, toward Karachi, where presumably the marijuana would have been exported. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 19 Feb 80 p 3]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

DRUG PUSHING MADE CAPITAL CRIME-NON-BAILABLE OFFENSE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Feb 80 p 1

[Text]

THE ILLEGAL use, sale or distribution of prohibited drugs has been made a capital punishment.

If the victim of the offense is a minor, or should the prohibited drug cause the death of the victim, the maximum penalty of death shall be imposed.

The harsh provisions against drug pushing are contained in Presidential Decree No. 1675, which President Marcos signed yesterday in Baguio City.

PRESSING the campaign against the drugs menace, the President also issued General Order No. 65 which includes drug pushing among the offenses for which an arrest, search and seizure order (ASSO) may be issued by the Minister of National Defense.

Under PD 1675 which amended Rep. Act 6425, also known as the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972 the penalty for the sale, administration, distribution and transportation of prohibited drugs has been increased to life imprisonment to death and a fine of from P20,000 to P30,000.

Previously, the penalty was only 12 to 20 years' imprisonment or a fine ranging from P12,000 to P20,000. Suspects could avail themselves of bail.

THE PRESIDENT said he was prompted to crack down on drug pushers upon learning of the release of two suspects after filing bail bonds.

Released by Fiscal Fidel Ringpis of Caloocan City yesterday were Armando Saez and Augusto Mauro who posted bail bonds of P20,000 and P15,000, respectively. The President ordered the rearrest of the two other suspects out on bail.

Under the law, "dangerous drugs" are classified into "prohibited" and "regulated drugs." Prohibited drugs include opium and its active components and derivatives, such as heroin and morphine; cocoa leaf and its derivatives, principally cocaine; alpha and beta cocaine, hallucinogenic drugs, such as mescaline, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) and other substance producing similar effects; Indian hemp and its derivatives; all preparations made from any of the foregoing and other drugs, whether natural or synthetic, with the physiological effects of narcotic drug.

SINGAPORE

READDICTION RATE AT AN ALL-TIME LOW

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Dec 79 p 13

[Text]

MORE than half the parents of drug addicts in 1977 didn't know their children were hooked on drugs until they were sent to the Drug Rehabilitation Centres, but they have now become more vigilant.

The change came about through the efforts of the Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association (Sana), said Mr Baey Lian Peck, the association's president, at the opening of a crime and drug abuse exhibition at the Radin Mas community centre last night.

Mr Baey, who quoted figures from a survey conducted by the Probation and Aftercare Service in 1977, said Sana had since come a long way with its aggressive campaigns on preventive education and publicity.

He said: "If time and resources permit, Sana will conduct a survey on the extent of the public's awareness of the danger-

ous effects and harmful social consequences of drug abuse sometime next year.

"Vigorous drives against drug abuse have to be on-going. The anti-drug message must hit everybody, not just once but repeatedly from different quarters and at all levels of communication.

'All-time low'

The common objective of everyone was to prevent ex-addicts from re-addiction or other offences.

"To evaluate aftercare in isolation divorced from the other variables would be an exercise in futility," he added.

According to him, the failure rate of supervisees going back to their former drug habits was now at an "all-time low."

Since last October, Sana and the Home Affairs

Ministry had monitored the cases that failed under supervision to find out whether these cases were only under supervision or under supervision plus aftercare.

The results of the exercise, until September this year, showed that among the cases that failed, those without Sana's aftercare were over-represented.

The average comparative failure rate for the past 12 months was 1.9 per cent for those on supervision and 0.9 per cent for those on supervision and under Sana's aftercare.

"While the methodology used might appear oversimplified, the logic of the argument is that if supervision and aftercare shows an edge over supervision only over a period of time, it would be reasonable to conclude that aftercare is useful and necessary," he said.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

WARNING AGAINST POSSIBLE INCREASE IN FLOW OF DRUGS

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Dec 79 p 13

[Text]

A BUMPER crop of opium reported in the Golden Triangle area could lead to a flow of drugs to Singapore within the next 18 months and reverse the declining trend of drug abuse here.

This warning came from the Minister of State (Defence), Mr Bernard Chen, and the officer-in-charge of Queenstown police station, Asst Supt Khoo Boon Hui, when they spoke at a crime and drug abuse prevention exhibition at Radin Mas community centre last night.

Mr Chen said the bumper harvest meant that efforts to fight the drug menace must be maintained with even greater vigilance.

Shortages of drugs because of effective preventive measures had led to higher prices. This meant that traffickers would be tempted to take more risks despite the harsh penalties when they get caught.

Stiff laws

For this reason, the police and the Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association need to redouble their efforts and maintain constant vigilance even though there had been a decline in the number of drug abuse cases here.

Mr Chen, who is MP for Radin Mas, attributed the

fall in the number of drug cases to stiff laws against offenders, good rehabilitation programmes and effective co-ordination among the preventive agencies.

However, he warned that the decline is a temporary phenomenon and parents should also take care to see that their children do not get trapped in drugs.

Under control

Asst Supt Khoo said the bumper harvest has been confirmed by intelligence reports.

He did not elaborate, but added: "With good public cooperation, we are confident of containing this expected threat."

He said the drug traffic is now well under control due to the efforts of various organisations and the scarce supply of drugs.

The police, he added, are also closely monitoring the drug situation.

He said that crime and drug abuse prevention are not only a police task but also a community responsibility.

"I am not suggesting that you patrol the streets to check and apprehend suspicious people — that is the job of the police."

"But you can help by protecting your homes, your property and person, and report suspicious people and criminal activities and thus fight crime."

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

INTERNATIONAL DRUG KINGPIN ARRESTED IN CHIANG MAI

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 21 Jan 80 pp 1, 8 BK

[Text]

CHIANG MAI — A 44-year-old Haw Chinese, labelled by Interpol police as a "drug kingpin", was arrested in this northern province on Saturday together with nearly one million baht worth of chemicals for heroin production.

Police identified him as Chieng Peter or Pito, whose Thai alias is Mana Anukul, and said he ranks 12th in the list of international drug traffickers.

They said the name Chieng was also mentioned in a record of drug kingpins earlier presented to the American Congress by representative Lester Wolff (Democrat-New York).

Chieng was charged with illegal possession of chemicals for the production of heroin. Police said the confiscated chemicals, weighing over 2,000 litres, could produce hundreds of kilogrammes of heroin.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of provincial policemen and officials of the Narcotics Control Board arrested two men as they were transferring the chemicals from a house on Chiang Mai-Fang Road in Mae Rim District onto a Toyota truck.

The arrested duo were

identified as Charan Inpan, 25, the truck driver, and Chamras Chaiprapa, 51, the truck owner.

Police discovered about 30 boxes of chemicals including thinner, ether, alcohol and caustic soda in the truck.

They said the chemicals were to be sent to a heroin refinery at the Thai-Burmese border. They said the house No 258/3 where the chemicals were taken from belonged to Chieng.

Chamras told police that he was employed to take the chemicals to the border for 1,000 baht. He said he did not know the name of the person who hired him.

Police said Chieng was arrested as he was hiding near Mae Rim police station where the two arrested persons were taken to for interrogation. They said Chieng was watching the police questioning the two when he was nabbed by Interpol police.

Chieng denied his involvement in drug trafficking or possession of the chemicals. Police found a pistol, a driving licence and ID card issued by Thai officials on Chieng.



The three arrested suspects – (left to right) Charan Inpan, Chieng Peter and Chamras Chaiprapa – and the seized chemicals at Mae Rim police station.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

ROYAL PARDON FOR BRITISH NURSE IMPRISONED ON DRUG CONVICTION

Clemency Requested

BK221314 Hong Kong AFP in English 1238 GMT 22 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Bangkok, 22 Jan (AFP)--British nurse Rita Nightingale, serving a 20-year sentence on heroin smuggling charges, has been granted clemency, an official of the Royal Secretariat confirmed today.

The official declined to affirm that this meant that the 26-year-old nurse was to be released but said the royal decision had been relayed to the prime minister's office.

An informed source said clemency was granted on January 14 following a request from the British Government.

But the government officials remained tight-lipped on the matter of her release with corrections department officials and wardens at the Lard Yao Women's Correctional Institute saying that they had received no reports or instructions to this effect.

"We have received no instructions whatsoever," said a warden at Lard Yao where Miss Nightingale has been serving her sentence since the criminal court decision in December 1977.

But the warden noted that she was "comfortable" and frequently received British visitors.

Miss Nightingale was arrested at Don Muang Airport on March 19, 1977 with 3.4 kilogrammes of heroin hidden in her luggage and a portable radio she was carrying.

The criminal court in the following December sentenced her to 20 years imprisonment. The sentence was upheld seven months later by the appeals court.

The case caused a major outcry in the British press and campaigns were launched for the release of the young nurse.

Serving 20-Year Term

BK231310 Hong Kong AFP in English 1252 GMT 23 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] Bangkok, 23 Jan (AFP)--British nurse Rita Nightingale, serving a 20-year term on heroin smuggling charges, was released this afternoon in an act of royal clemency.

"I'm going to live.... This is the first day in the beginning of my life," the 26-year-old British nurse told reporters on arriving for an emigration check with mid-city Thai authorities this evening.

According to her lawyers, Tilleke and Gibbins, Ms. Nightingale is to leave the country within 24 hours of her release and there were indications that attempts were being made for her to head for home tonight.

The nurse saw freedom shortly after 2.00 p.m. today when local police authorities collected her from the Lard Yao Women's Correctional Institute in the northern outskirts of Bangkok.

The speed of her release surprised herself, her lawyers and British Embassy officials.

Ms. Nightingale told reporters that she thought it would take another three days. Her lawyers said she only knew about it "five minutes" beforehand.

According to informed sources, royal clemency was granted on January 14 and it was not until today that Thai Government officials confirmed that it meant her release.

The conviction of Ms. Nightingale unleashed a major outcry in the British press which was critical of Thai authorities.

Pardon Text

BK231455 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 23 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Deputy Under Secretary of State for Interior Detchat Wongkomonlachet explained to newsmen the royal amnesty granted to woman convict Rita Nightingale and read to them the pardon signed by his majesty:

[Begin Detchat recording] Woman convict Rita Nightingale, number 421/1977, jailed at the women's prison for being in possession of and attempting to smuggle heroin out of the country, and being sentenced to 20 years in prison, petitioned for a royal clemency. The Interior Ministry, after conducting an investigation, recommended that she be granted clemency and be released. I hereby grant amnesty and release

to woman convict Rita Nightingale in accordance with the proposal made by the Interior Ministry.

Signed: Phumiphon Adunyadet, Rex.

Countersigned by: Somphop Hotrakit, deputy prime minister. [end
Detchat recording]

Departs Bangkok

BK241351 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 24 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpt] Bangkok, 24 Jan (AFP)--British nurse Rita Nightingale left here this evening after royal clemency granted her release from a 20-year term on heroin smuggling charges.

Airport officials said the 26-year-old British nurse, released yesterday, left on board a Malaysian Airline flight MH-827 which was scheduled to take off at 5.50 p.m. but left behind schedule at sometime before 7.00 p.m.

The plane's first stop was Kuala Lumpur, the officials noted.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI COURT SENTENCES SWISS DRUG DEALER TO PRISON

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 5 Feb 80 p 5

[Article: "Twenty-five Years in Prison for Swiss Dealer"]

[Text] Bangkok, 3 February. The provincial court in the northern Thai city Chiang Rai, after a year's detention pending investigation, has sentenced the 27-year-old unskilled laborer Christian Hess, of Sumiswald in Berne [Canton], to 25 years in prison for possession of around 3 kilograms of heroin. The condemned man can appeal to a higher court. According to the new narcotics law, he could even have been sentenced to life imprisonment or death.

The condemned Swiss had fled investigative detention in Bern in 1978 and had escaped to Thailand. There he allegedly moved in drug circles, and it is suspected that he was active in drug traffic with Switzerland he had at various times resided in Thailand. During a search of his house in northern Thailand police found eight small packages containing around 3 kilograms of heroin, which he had hidden in a suitcase. According to police reports, Hess was on the point of departure. According to statements from persons who visited him during his detention, he had not expected to be sentenced, but instead believed that he would be able to buy his freedom with 50,000 Swiss francs. He would not consider seeking assistance from the Swiss Embassy in Bangkok, evidently because he knew he was being sought by police in Switzerland.

The Swiss was apparently sentenced according to the old law, otherwise he would probably have faced even harsher punishment. The new Thai drug law prescribes life imprisonment, or the death penalty, for possession of more than 100 grams of heroin; possession of less than 100 grams of heroin is punishable by imprisonment for from 5 years to life, while the mere use of heroin is punished by confinement for from 6 months to 10 years. To the weight of these penalties must be added the fact that the living conditions in Thai prisons are extraordinarily harsh for a Central European.

In the last year the Swiss Embassy in Bangkok has been notified by Thai police of 28 arrests of Swiss citizens for drug offenses.

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CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

OPIUM FROM LAOS--Nong Khai--Provincial police arrested two men and a woman in a boat transporting eight kgs of raw opium from Laos into this northeastern province last Friday. The trio, identified as Pan Donsome, 50, Prasong Jongsala, 35, and Mrs Pumwandee Koterat, 40, admitted that they purchased the opium in Laos and planned to take it to Baan Don Paeng of Tambon Nongdern, Bungkarn District here. They were charged with possession and smuggling opium into the country. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 15 Jan 80 p 8 BK]

AIRPORT DRUG ARREST--A Hong Kong Chinese was arrested in the passenger lounge of Don Muang Airport last night, and charged with possessing one kilogramme of No. 4 heroin in 21 small plastic bags strapped to his waist. Customs officials and Customs Narcotics Suppression Unit officers searched Mok Chung Kan (44) after he had passed through Customs and was waiting for departure call. He was due to leave on Thai International's 7 p.m. flight 602 for Hong Kong when he was arrested. Mok came to Bangkok on January 2, his first visit. After the arrest, he was sent to the Crime Suppression Division for further action. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jan 80 p 3 BK]

HAT YAI SHOOTOUT--Southern narcotics policemen seized 1.6 kilogrammes of No. 4 heroin and arrested three men following a shootout in a restaurant in this southern capital yesterday evening. The three suspects, one of them wounded during the clash, were identified as Prasert Panyapruet, 32, Yuan Muangwong, 27, and Kachorn sae Kwo, 27. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jan 80 p 3 BK]

BRITON JAILED WITH HEROIN--The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced a British woman to six months in prison after finding her guilty of possessing heroin for personal consumption. The woman, Miss Carol Denise, 24, was arrested in the Chinatown area of Bangkok on December 1 with a small capsule of heroin worth about 16 baht on her person. Miss Denise was first sentenced to one year's imprisonment, but the term was halved because she pleaded guilty. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 80 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300

YUGOSLAVIA

SPREAD OF ADDICTION, NARCOTICS TRADE TRACED

Overview of Situation

Belgrade NEDELJNE INFORMATIVNE NOVINE in Serbo-Croatian No 1510, 16 Dec 79
pp 18-21

[Article by Rade Soskic]

[Text] In the 30 largest countries, 24 million drug addicts have been recorded, and in 1 year 3.3 million kilograms of drugs have been confiscated. The wave of this dread disease is pounding with greater fury on us also, so that even the Federal Executive Council has been pointing out the seriousness of the situation.

Mothers of drug addicts who, along with their children, are attending group therapy at the Institute for Mental Health of Serbia in Belgrade, recently proposed the formation of a volunteer detachment of mothers for the fight against drugs. They state that they have considerable experience, and their consciousness of the nature of the great evil involved here makes them resolute fighters against drug addiction.

The father of one student who is a treated drug addict, who otherwise is an economist and the director of a reknown Belgrade firm, built a camera in his house which he used to photograph all of his son's visitors, to give him an idea of the company his son was keeping and to check whether these were drug addicts.

Recently, panic reigned in one high rise in Novi Beograd. An odd smell prevailed from the basement to the roof, as though some kind of chemicals were being made. The tenants "swore" that this was their young men and women who were making drugs. So they called the militia. Afterwards it was determined that some children, knowing the effect that their action would have, were burning ping pong balls. The reaction of the older people was exactly what the children had expected.

A Tale of Desperation

Every day, in front of the Dadov disco club on Ulica Dzure Salaja, one can see groups which are serving up "tobacco" in nylon bags containing the glue "tigar," which is one of the countless ways that drug traffic became what it is. We say also that it is well known that the breathing of the vapors of this glue is the most primitive, but also the most accessible way of intoxication. At the same time, "tigar" has become the entryway into the circle of those who will become slaves of one of the most odious habits.

Whereas those who will become victims to drugs are satisfied with sniffing glue vapors, the experienced drug addicts create veritable laboratories so as to manufacture drugs. Thus, drug addict B. H. of Belgrade, in one of his attempts at withdrawal, in a written statement to the doctor stated: "I used to like to make myself some special cocktails. When I injected this concoction into my vein, it was as though something had exploded...I became unconscious..."

This story speaks of the fear and despair of those who have opted for drugs as companions, as well as of those whose children, brothers, parents, or some other family member have set off on this dangerous journey.

Can it be possible that something that was first observed in our country hardly 15 years ago has taken on such proportions that hundreds of families are already living disturbed by and in fear of drugs?

The First Step Toward Ruin

In the SFRY Assembly, there is material which the Federal Executive Council uses to keep track of traffic in dangerous drugs.

"The increase in illicit trade in narcotics and the trend toward an increase in the disease, which are the results of taking drugs, especially among the youth, is an ever-greater problem in the world and in Yugoslavia. Having in mind the social danger of this phenomenon, the need is pointed out for expanded social involvement of all organs and organizations responsible for the situation in this field, along with the need for implementing the decisions which the council has already enacted."

The Federal Executive Council cites the decisions of its earlier meetings, at which this social danger was discussed (12 May 1971, 27 December 1975, and 18 November 1976), and the information sent to the assembly was studied at the meetings of the Federal Executive Council on 18 and 25 October of this year.

There is no doubt: we too are a part of a world inundated with drugs. Fortunately, we are far from the main wave of this tide, but we are also far from being able to keep on being calm and to look upon narcotics as the misfortune of some other, faraway world.

Intercepting drugs, on the market and in the minds of people, is obviously a task that society has to regard as an obligation that will never end. Any anyone who thinks for a minute that he has won the battle against drugs has already taken a decisive step toward defeat.

There is no underground better organized than that connected with drugs, and there are no more unified lines of pursuit than those against drugs. They exist in all four corners of the world. Nor are they impeded by different government systems, or separated by the oceans.

Unclear Picture

In the 12 months of 1977 alone, 3,385,049 kilograms of drugs were confiscated in the world--and this is more than all that had been confiscated during the 12 years before 1977.

The successes of the police are indisputable, but one must not live under the illusion that the world is becoming less corrupt. This dirty industry makes up for all of this, and masters new techniques and sources.

Our internal affairs organs are a significant link in the chain of the international front which is combating the proliferation of drugs. In the last 5 years alone, cooperation with Interpol took place in 2,800 cases.

The Federal Executive Council concludes that we do not have a totally clear picture of the dimensions of drug addiction in our country. This documentation is the obligation of the medical service, and their reports are not complete. However, the internal affairs organs--working on the breaking up of the production and traffic of narcotics, also come into information about people who do not even use drugs. These data also are not complete either, but they point out sufficiently clearly that an ever-increasing number of our people are on drugs. Thus, in 1970, there were 250 recorded drug users, and only 4 years later, there were 10 times more, 2,555. At the end of 1978, 5,678 were recorded, and half of these were from Belgrade, Zabreb, and Ljubljana. Of this number, 83 percent were under 25 years of age and more than 100 were less than 15 years old.

The number of types of drugs being used is increasing constantly. On our domestic market, hashish, marijuana, morphine, LSD, and barbiturates are most prevalent. There is a general trend of increasing consumption of hard drugs, and sicknesses other than dependence are more frequent and widespread.

Part of the International Underground

Prices on our market are very high, as they are throughout the world. A gram of hashish amounts to from 50 to 200 dinars. An LSD tablet costs from 120 to 250 dinars. An ampule of morphine costs about 300 dinars. However, during the periods when there are no drugs, when an artificial shortage is

caused, or when the internal affairs service steps up its crackdown on drugs, then the price escalates fivefold. Data on the European market prices indicate that the retail price of narcotics is from 40 to 100 times as high as the wholesale cost.

Breakins and falsification of prescriptions are also important sources of supply for our market. During the last 5 years, 10 kilograms of morphine, codein and cocaine, and 45,000 various ampules and tablets of heptanone, petantine, morphine, and other medicines were removed from burglarized druggist shops, and were later sold as drugs. The drug addicts who break into druggist shops have usually done this with professional burglars. This occurs usually when it is difficult to get a supply of drugs from abroad.

The fact that our drug criminals are part of the international drug network is attested to also by the fact that 319 of our citizens were indicted in foreign countries for this crime and that the foreign police confiscated a half-ton of drugs from them.

Specially Equipped Base

The internal affairs organs, in cooperation with the customs service, have had notable success in smashing illicit narcotics traffic and in uncovering illegal drug distribution channels. Since 1974, they have conducted 741 drug busts and confiscated 13,201 kilograms of various narcotics. Between 1969 and 1973, 3,253 kilograms were confiscated.

The greatest amount confiscated was that of hashish, in the amount of nearly 13 tons. Since 1974, liquid hashish is also being smuggled. This is 10 times stronger than regular hashish, and is easier for illicit handling. In 22 cases, more than 60 kilograms of heroin, the strongest narcotic, were confiscated.

The number of people involved in drug transport, storage, and resale has also increased significantly. During the last 5 years, criminal charges have been brought against 1,463 persons. An increase has also been noted in the number of foreigners taking part in the drug traffic. There were 532 of these in the last 5 years (mostly Turks, West Germans, Lebanese, Iranians, and Italians).

"Our country straddles the route from the region where the most narcotics are produced to those regions where the most drugs are consumed. In other words, the smuggling channels from the Near East to Western Europe pass through our country. Individual hotels, motels, and trailer camps on the main routes serve as meeting places for traffickers, and it is most important for us to prevent our country from becoming a junk market, because this will inevitable broaden the ranks of criminals and drug addicts," explains Predrag Markovic, chief of a department at the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs.

How much narcotics are there? We asked this question of Jovan Bukelic, M D, head of the Advisory Panel for Drug Addiction of the Institute for Mental Health of Serbia.

"There's really quite a lot of narcotics around," states Dr Vukelic. "However, the World Health Organization determines the official classification of drugs, and according to the 1965 classification, there are seven types of dependences: the morphine type dependence; the barbiturate-alcohol type; cocaine; cannabis (hashish and marijuana); amphetamine type (stimulative drugs); kat-type dependence [dependence on tranquilizer drugs?], and finally, hallucinogenics, such as LSD, mescaline, psilocybin, etc.

Those people who think that here in Yugoslavia, drugs have not taken hold and that there is no reason for alarm probably have in mind the fact that the degree of drug dependence in many countries of the world is incomparably greater.

An Epidemic of Most Distressing Proportions

Reports throughout the world speak of an epidemic of most distressing proportions. In the 30 largest countries of the world, 24 million drug addicts were recorded in 1977. The countries on all sides of us are having a more and more difficult time carrying the burden of their patients: in Italy, there are 50,000, in Austria, there are 15,000, in Switzerland, 9,000, in the FRG, 40,000 and for the first time, drugs are being mentioned in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania...

There are countries which conceal the existence of drug addicts, and there are countries which look soberly, but with obvious desperation, at the number and types of their drug addicts.

We ask Jovan Bukelic, our only doctor of sciences in the field of drug addiction, to tell us whether the current life style is especially conducive to the spread of drug addiction and to give us a general picture of the social causes and a profile of the people who are apt to be habituated to drugs.

"In secret, or totally in the open, from curiosity to compulsiveness, people have attempted to change their awareness of the world with something new, offering to clothe the world with fascination for the curious eye, compromising and corrupting their consciences. The desire to test out the effects of drugs is often the result of curiosity, of modern fads, spite, protest, and imitative and identificative processes, a type of escape... As far as social causes are concerned, I would not like to generalize too much. Today's pace of life drives many to escape, because they are incapable of keeping step with things around them, and they need a crutch to help them cope with society. However, this is not just a characteristic of today's society and time; there have always been people who were depressed and disillusioned, and turned to the age-old carriers of cheer: alcohol or drugs."

We remind Doctor Bukelic that curiosity is a positive trait, especially in young persons. So is this curiosity to try, just to see, sufficient for one to become addicted to drugs.

"Very often, even that one unthinking decision to try it out is sufficient. The young people do not know their mental makeup, and are curious and desire to analyze their own personalities. For an unstable, weak mental structure, taking drugs just one time, just that one try, can be fatal.

Double Victims

It is difficult to imagine anything in today's world that is as gruesome, that is so totally enmeshed in crime as is the case with drugs. It is simply a plethora of evils.

But, since some continue to build up their fortunes upon the tragedies of others, there will continue to be more and more drugs, and here, it is necessary to find the primary reasons as to why there are more and more narcotics and drug addicts.

The drugs are divided into two groups according to the types of results they produce. Some drugs cause a physical dependence, similar to hunger or thirst. Opium is the strongest of these. These drugs enter the cells and become a part of the metabolism. Psychic dependence is caused by all other drugs, also. A patient, at the moment he takes a narcotic, feels calmed down and is capable of adjusting to his environment. The typical path followed by a drug addict is that the first impression is intoxication, it promises new heights, but this is only a trap. The enthrallment soon dies down, and the habit becomes the master, the old and the new heights vanish, the person sees that he picked the worst of all escapes. But at that time, it is already too late, the drug dependence has become his traveling companion. The person has become a double victim: of the drug and of those who will sell it to him for quite a sum of money and who at the same time will act as though they were giving him charity. Drugs will draw him into crime, theft, fraud, robbery, prostitution.

Among the drug addicts who are criminals, and who are treated in our prison hospitals, only one-fifth were involved in deviate behavior before they fell victim to drugs. Under the influence of drugs and because of drugs, their clashes with the law became a chain reaction and they even became hardened criminals.

In San Francisco, among the 43,000 treated drug addicts, 80 percent were in prison at least once, whereas 66 percent had been arrested and sentenced two, three, and more times. The extent to which drugs wipe out all norms of behavior and humanity and lead to foolish ideas is shown also by the report that the San Francisco Police recently prevented a large group of drug addicts from throwing LSD into the municipal water system, because they wanted, as they stated, "to do a good deed for all the people in the city."

There are Only Six Beds in Belgrade

In searching for the misfortunes that drug bring, we also found the report that in Yugoslavia, drugs have one totally dismal record: our drug addicts hold first place in the world in the number of illnesses which are the direct result of the toxic action of narcotic drugs. Thus, half of our drug addicts who are registered in health institutions are suffering from hepatitis, a very dangerous liver disease.

We ask Bukelic if he is familiar with the cases where distraught parents go to the militia station to report their children for stealing solely in order to cut them off from drugs by having them put in jail. Isn't there any better way of prevention?

"It is really not easy for those who want to help themselves or someone close to them. In Belgrade, where the population runs about 1 million, there are only six beds, two apiece in three health institutions, for drug addicts. The lack of motivation of drug addicts for treatment is well known. This is so even though our health institutions are more spacious and better staffed."

Up to now, our health organizations have not shown any interest in treating drug addicts, because addicts, because of frequent recidivism and their anarchical concept of hospital routine, offer little therapeutic gratification. In addition, the medical models of treatment for drug addiction have not turned out to be sufficiently effective. This is understandable with respect to the fact that drug addiction has passed the level of individual pathology.

There Really Has Been Sufficient Warning

Let us return to the point from which we started our study of the danger of drugs. Narcotics can be cut off in two ways: on the market and in the consciousness of people. The first task is mainly in the hands of the police, and thus far it looks like it is the only link which is fulfilling expectations fully.

Social organizations, the school system, and the health system either underestimate the danger, or do not have the power to struggle to build a clear picture in the minds of every individual young person of the danger and the abyss which lurks behind every bit of unthinking curiosity, behind every recruitment, behind even one single trying out of drugs.

There really has been sufficient warning, from us, and from foreign countries.

This is no longer "those stories" from film; this is the reality in which we live.

Profile of Yugoslav Addict

Belgrade NEDELJNE INFORMATIVNE NOVINE in Serbo-Croatian No 1510, 16 Dec 79
p 20

[Text] Who are our drug addicts of today? What kinds of families and surroundings are they from. How did they get acquainted with drugs, and how did they decide to try them out for the first time? How do they get their supplies, and what are the organic and psychological consequences of taking drugs? How do you recognize them on the street? We made this sketch for a portrait of a Yugoslav drug addict with the help of the experiences of the Advisory Panel for Drug Addiction of the Institute for Mental Health of Serbia in Belgrade.

Most frequently, these are pupils, and then students and workers. They are between 14 and 25 years old and most frequently, they tried drugs for the first time at the age of 17. Four of five drug addicts come from families of middle or upper economic status. One out of three is an only child. The fathers of half of the treated drug addicts have intermediate and higher education.

Most often, the reasons for taking drugs are: escape from reality and personal insecurity and a desire to reduce their inadequacy with drugs. Most frequently, drugs are taken in a group, and frequently, the reason is that it is easier to get drugs this way. It is typical that one out of four drug addicts has no friends whatsoever.

Drug addicts display great social mobility, frequently travel abroad, and are inspired by Oriental and Far Eastern philosophy. The erroneous belief prevails that that drug addicts have tempestuous sex lives, and that they also have frequent orgies. A disinterest in sex is dominant in the majority of drug addicts.

Drug addicts are totally unfit for the role of parents.

Before taking drugs, many were good pupils, and two-thirds of the girls even had outstanding success. During the period of drug abuse, 80 percent stayed back in school and repeated grades. The employed drug addicts were poor workers, and apt to get into conflicts.

Almost all drug addicts smoke.

From the first moment when they learned about it, the parents underestimated the danger, and put the blame on someone else. The mothers were more insistent on treatment of the drug addicts, whereas the fathers either rejected the child, or suddenly fell into bad health, and even heart attacks were quite frequent.

Most often, the drug addicts give the first information to future victims, and two-thirds state that curiosity was the reason for taking the drugs the

first time. One out of two drug addicts started to take drugs regularly right after taking them the first time.

Drug addicts talk in jargon, and way-out slang is the sign of belonging to the group and making connections quickly even in places where no one they know is around.

Two-thirds of the drug addicts have bodily injuries which are the result of drugs, and one out of two has noticeable symptoms of mental disturbance.

The side effects of drug abuse are character changes and antisocial behavior of 80 percent of the drug addicts. Young people who are exemplary frequently turn into arrogant antisocial types who act up in the first stage, and later they steal, kill, fence, falsify, and blackmail and the destructive tendencies often lead to vandalism and high crime and even to suicide.

A characteristic of our drug addicts is that they make use of more types of drugs. The reason for this, possibly, is that our market is not "worked out" yet so as to have "our own drugs." More frequently, they take opium, then hallucinogenic stimulants, and drugs from cannabis (hashish or marijuana).

5808
CSO: 2800

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

DRUG ARRESTS--Two light aircraft, two new Toyota trucks and 89 kg of cocaine were confiscated and several individuals in military uniform were detained during an operation carried out by drug office personnel in the towns of San Javier and San Julian. This was reported by Interior Minister Jorge Selum Vaca Diez during a press conference held here on Wednesday at noon. [PT211459 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Police Drug Department yesterday arrested drug traffickers Rafael Fernando Diverio dos Santos, Valdeci Adelino de Lucena, Jose Carlos Lorenzo de Souza and Rovani Paulo da Silva and seized 1 kilogram of cocaine worth 700,000 cruzeiros. [PY290105 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Feb 80 p 1 PY]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

ARMY DRUG SEIZURES SUMMARIZED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 14 Jan 80 p 10-A

[Text] The numerous operations carried out by the Columbian Army in the fight against drug traffickers produced extraordinary results in 1979 and thus far in 1980 since according to the statistical figures provided on this subject, they have resulted in the confiscation of 80,000 bundles of marihuana having a total weight of 3,338,044 kg.

The same statistics indicate that there were a total of 10,667 marihuana fields located in the country, especially on the Atlantic coast, and that during this period fields measuring 800 hectares were destroyed.

1,419 Captures

The operations also resulted in the capture of 1,104 Colombians accused of engaging in drug trafficking and of 315 foreigners who for the most part entered the country clandestinely for the purpose of transporting marihuana and cocaine into the United States, not only by air, but also by sea.

Vehicles

The total number of vehicles seized is fantastic if one takes into account that 637 vehicles fell into the hands of the army, including autos, campers, trucks and light trucks; 113 aircraft of different types, and 81 boats of varying drafts.

Other Elements

The statistics show, in addition, that the confiscations also included 850 firearms, 25,548 cartridges, 99 pumping engines which are used in the marihuana fields, 99 radio transmitters which the drug traffickers used for their communications, 35 scales for weighing marihuana and 94 presses used to make blocks of marihuana to facilitate its transport abroad.

"Cache"

The latest operation, which was carried out this week, was in the area of Pajaro, Bolivar, by the troops of the Cartagena Battalion. A cache was discovered there in which were hidden four bundles of marihuana and 29 blocks of hashish weighing 2 kg each.

The shipment had been left in that place awaiting pick-up, possibly by a light plane.

9204

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

'SEA OF COCAINE' EXTENDS ALMOST TO BRAZIL

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Jan 80 Sec A pp 1, 14

[Text] Villavicencio, 25 January (by special correspondent Humberto Diez)-- The "sea of cocaine" discovered by the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] in the Guaviare and Vaupes area extends through Calamar, Miraflores, Caruru, Tio Barbas and Mitu, nearly reaching Brazil.

A committee consisting of representatives from the DAS and EL TIEMPO's special correspondent flew over part of the area containing the huge plantations.

A few minutes away from Villavicencio the hundreds of clearings made by the drug Mafias in order to plant the coca bushes began to be visible from the air. There are hundreds and hundreds of them. In some sections, one can discern 10, 15 and even as many as 20 clearings in the forest, at a single glance.

Although most of the plantations are located on the shores of the Vaupes River and the tributary channels, some are up to 5 or 10 kilometers from the river banks, inside the forest. It is presumed that the coca leaf crops had to be removed along the paths patiently dug by the drug traffickers over a number of years.

Investigations carried out by the DAS indicate that the first efforts for experimentation, preparing the soil and acclimatizing the shrubs began at least 8 years ago, based on the work done by agricultural experts some of whom were hired in Colombia, and others in Peru and Bolivia.

It was also ascertained that the work on a firm basis, with large scale crops, began exactly 3 years ago.

When viewed from the air, the crops offer a very decorative panorama in the midst of the jungle. The green of the coca bushes is actually more intense and vivid than the almost faded color of the surrounding jungle.

It was learned, in addition, that a single "businessman" had as many as 100 experts in his service to care for a few crops.

Many of these laborers were hired throughout the plains area, from among the unemployed personnel of farmers.

For the recruitment, they used a system that is known here as "sitting." It consists of having the jobless men sit in a certain place in each town, and wait there for the farmers to come and hire them.

Supply Depot

The organizations of drug traffickers reached such a degree of brazenness and daring that they made it possible to establish a supply depot in Miraflores, in which they could obtain all the ingredients necessary for the manufacture and processing of drugs.

In one of the leading residences in the town, and in full view of everyone (including the authorities), the supplier, identified as Secundino Lopez, from Boyaca, was equipped to sell complete laboratories for preparing drugs.

Secundino Lopez provided items ranging from salt, gasoline, acetone and ether to filter paper, drying lamps, basins and high precision scales. Lopez did not confine himself to this, but also supplied transportation with speedboats, guides and scouts, and such items as canned goods, liquor, cigarettes and others.

The Shady Business of the Millions

The activity of the Mafia members established a veritable "shady business of the millions" in the Guaviare and Vaupes areas.

Day laborers who previously earned 80 or 90 pesos a day during the traditional harvest seasons began to receive wages ranging from 600 to 900 pesos per day.

However, this abundance of money brought about a galloping and stifling inflation for those who were not in on the business. In localities such as Miraflores, Caruru, Calamar and Tio Barbas, a soft drink costs 30 pesos; beer, 45 pesos; a package of foreign cigarettes, 60 pesos; a bottle of whiskey, 1,800 pesos; a bottle of brandy, 800 pesos; breakfast with two eggs, 100 pesos; and lunch, as much as 300 pesos.

But the most severe blow to the population of the Guaviare and Vaupes areas was against their own ethics: In none of the aforementioned towns did anyone deny being associated in some way with the coca business; and to justify their position, they confined themselves to saying: "This is a job, like any other."

There was a strange attitude on the part of some who were arrested, who protested the confiscation of their weapons by the DAS, claiming that this procedure was "an attack against private property."

Moreover, the prosperity of the drug trade in this part of the country turned several towns into a genuine hideout for criminals. Among the individuals who were captured there are actually some who had been sought for some time, at the order of various judges in the republic.

All those in custody were placed under orders from Dr Joaquin Lombo, the criminal trial judge in Villavicencio, who is responsible for deciding upon the legal status of over 50 persons who have been apprehended to date.

The Destruction

DAS officials who were asked about the plans for the destruction of the "sea of coca" expressed bewilderment over the magnitude of the problem.

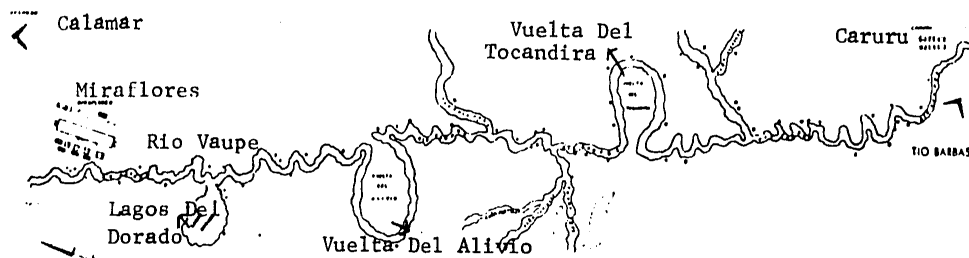
The destruction of the thousands of hectares (estimated at over 10,000) would require the participation of several thousand men, whose financial support is not in the hands of the authorities.

The foregoing pertains to the plantations located near the shores of the Vaupes River and its tributary channels. But the problem is greater in the case of the crops that are in the heart of the jungle, which can only be reached by those familiar with the area for a long period of time.

For the latter plantations, many helicopters would be required, and a supply of these is impossible for the DAS, in the sensational antidrug operation that it has just completed with a single small Aerocommander airplane. In other words, the DAS dealt "with its bare hands" the heaviest blow struck in the world to date against the drug trafficking Mafias.

Fortunately for the DAS investigators, they had very effective backing from the Colombian Air Force for the movement of the personnel who conducted the operation.

Finally, it was announced that the control systems in the "sea of coca" area would be continued by the DAS until the national government makes a decision as to what is to be done with the crops.



The black dots on each side of the Vaupes River, between Miraflores and Caruru, are the coca bush plantations inspected to date by the DAS ground patrols in the Vaupes area. Thousands more are in the channels and along the river as far as Mitu, almost at the Brazilian border. The DAS will continue keeping track of the crops, in an effort that will last for several weeks. The first crops start at San Jose del Guaviare.

2909
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

MEXICAN HERBICIDE ASSISTANCE REJECTED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 31 Jan 80 Sec A p 33

[Text] Bogota, 30 January--The United States ambassador, Diego Ascencio, commented here today that Colombia "is beginning to degenerate to the point of reaching political instability;" also disclosing that "106 members of the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives were elected, either partially or totally, with contributions from the drug traffic."

In circles connected with the attorney general's office, it was reported that Colombia has decided, for the time being, not to accept the assistance that Mexico had offered it for destroying marihuana plantations through the use of electronic systems for air detection, and the spraying of the crops with aerosols and toxic substances.

The United States ambassador also revealed that President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala received a secret report notifying him that certain governors, heads of ministries, mayors and municipal councilmen "who have been traffickers or who have been bought by them" are involved in the drug traffic, as well as his nephew, Anibal Turbay Ayala.

Ambassador Ascencio is of the opinion that, despite the fact that the United States has contributed \$16 million in aid to combat drug trafficking, "drugs are having a far more negative effect on this country than on ours. There is emerging a type of person without any kind of scruples and with large amounts of money in cash. Such persons are dangerous to any society. In Colombia, they have begun to change the governing, political, economic and social classes."

Leading Supplier

According to the United States Embassy, Colombia, as the top-ranking world supplier, provides three quarters of the marihuana and the cocaine processed with paste brought from Bolivia and Peru. Last year, the drug traffic in Colombia accounted for \$9 billion.

The United States has supplied \$16 million as well as aid in the form of equipment and secret officials who are specialists in drug trafficking and who are currently located on the coast and in La Guajira. However, the rings have a fleet of hundreds of aircraft and ships which make the trip between Colombia and the United States, carrying the drugs.

The reporter Marguerite Michaels, from PARADE magazine in the United States, remarks: "Drugs are the leading business in Colombia today. Marihuana exports alone exceed \$8 billion each year (three times the value of coffee sales and eight times that of the foreign aid from the United States during the past 30 years)."

She adds: "The drug business accounts for 6 percent of the gross national product in Colombia. Drugs have thereby helped to raise the inflation rate by 30 percent, and they have forced the exchange of foreign reserves in Colombia to reach a record of \$2.5 billion. In the coastal towns which make their living from drugs the increase in currency has created a false prosperity and an immediate economic collapse."

2909

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DAS COCAINE CONTROL EFFORTS DESCRIBED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Jan 80 Sec A p 11

[Text] The Administrative Department of Security [DAS] has established strict surveillance, both by air and in the river, over a vast area which comes under the jurisdiction of the Vaupes commissioner's office, in an effort to prevent the drug trafficking "Mafias" from attempting to continue exploiting the large coca plantations that have been discovered by the aforementioned government agency in the course of what has been described as the heaviest blow against those criminal organizations.

Operating 3 Years

As this newspaper reported at the time, the coca plantations covered an area of over 3,000 hectares, including expanses of land cleared in the middle of the jungle, along the Guaviare River, which were so difficult to locate that they had apparently been cultivated for 3 years, without the slightest difficulty.

It was as a result of a lengthy investigation headed by Dr Rafael Poveda Alfonso, before he left the DAS headquarters to hold the position of magistrate in the Higher Council of the Judicature, that traces were found of the existence of the large plantations. And, through a major operation, in which over 100 units from the entity participated, the plantations in remote areas were discovered, and many individuals were captured.

26 Arrests

According to reports released in Bogota, 71 persons were captured at first, but later, when the pertinent investigations had been made, it was decided to release 45 of them, accusing only the remaining 26, all of whom are from departments in the interior section of the country.

The aforementioned individuals were placed by the DAS at the disposal of the second trial judge of Villavicencio, an official who went to Miraflores in order to begin the investigation with a summons of the accused for questioning.

Destruction of Laboratories

It was also learned that, with the cooperation of several representatives from the attorney general's office assigned to the Judicial Police, many items confiscated during the operation were destroyed, including large amounts of acetone, ether, filter paper, basins and other items belonging to the laboratories used for processing coca paste. These ingredients were seized not only in Miraflores, but also in other locations along the Guaviare River, as well as in Calamar, Caruru and Tio Barbas.

It should be noted that, during the well coordinated raid made by the DAS detectives, the drug traffickers managed to sink a canoe which apparently contained a large amount of coca paste, the raw material for making cocaine.

Difficult Access

Moreover, the plantations covered an area ranging between 2 and 30 hectares cleared in the middle of the jungle, the only access to which was by the river; although, in order to reach them, it was necessary to traverse expanses which at times totaled 5 kilometers.

The drug traffickers used the airports that existed in Miraflores, Tio Barbas and Caruru to remove from the area either the coca paste or the cocaine already processed in the clandestine laboratories with which they were provided and which, as has been said, were previously seized by the DAS and destroyed in the presence of officials from the attorney general's office.

'Fat Fish'

It was learned that, from the questioning to which the 26 arrested individuals were initially subjected, the identity of some of the so-called "fat fish" was established; that is, the owners of the plantations and some of the individuals who were financing the vast illegal agricultural business. These persons are being sought by the DAS in several cities of the country, and their capture could occur at any moment.

As for the air and river control set up by the DAS in those remote regions, it will be in effect until the government studies the measures aimed at destroying the plantations, an endeavor which is considered dreadfully difficult, not only because access to them is almost impossible, but also because of their size. In any event, it was announced that the surveillance will continue until there is a new order, to prevent attempts to transport the coca along the Guaviare River and to use the airports in the aforementioned towns for shipping it to the interior section of the country.

2909
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

CHILD'S MURDER LAID TO ADDICTS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 28 Jan 80 Sec A p 17

[Text] Fusagasuga, 27 January--Last Thursday, the body of the child Sandra Liliana Morales Gomez, only 10 years of age, who was missing for over 18 days, was found by the authorities on the outskirts of this town.

Accounts obtained by this newspaper claim that the deceased, daughter of Emiro Morales Ortiz and Rosalbina Gomez Pinzon, was brutally murdered with a sharp weapon by a depraved person, after inflicting all kinds of abuse on her.

The mortal remains were discovered on the "Martica" farm in the Pekin Alto section by the farmer, Gerardo Capador, who made the report through Bernabe Villalba to the pertinent authorities. The latter immediately went to the scene of the incident to examine the corpse and begin the necessary investigation.

The first police inspector, Hernan Rodriguez, an official who was the first to learn of the macabre incident, said that the victim must have been killed on the same day that she disappeared, and that the small body of the unfortunate girl was partially devoured by dogs, which made it difficult to identify her.

Sandra Liliana's disappearance was reported promptly to the authorities, who immediately began the pertinent search through F-2, the secret force which already has some good clues for capturing the criminal.

This case, which has caused dismay and concern among the citizens, is compounded by that of the strange disappearance of another young girl, who is currently being sought by reserve police units.

Drug Consumption

An official from the local administration revealed that the insecurity that prevails in Fusagasuga is the result of the alarming consumption of hallucinogenic substances, particularly among the youth.

Statistical data published by EL ESPECTADOR indicate that the majority of crimes are committed by drug addicts and marihuana consumers who commit all kinds of offenses, even murder, during their periods of delirium. An authorized spokesman said: "The situation is assuming unprecedented intensity with tragic features, and if timely and drastic measures are not adopted, the town will be at the mercy of the criminals."

In conclusion, he claimed that the rate of homicides, thefts and holdups is high and that, despite the fact that great efforts are being expended, the results have not been sufficiently extensive to reduce it.

2909
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

WOMAN KILLED IN TRAFFICKERS' VENDETTA

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Jan 80 Sec A p 13

[Text] A woman closely connected with the drug trafficking Mafias operating in the country was the victim of a mysterious murder which was discovered last Thursday on the highway between Pensilvania and Fusagasuga.

The murdered woman was identified as Martha Stella de Rivera, and was found to be the wife of Rosendo Rivera, an individual who is currently incarcerated at the El Barne jail for the crime of illegal carrying of weapons, and who, in turn, is the brother of Veronica Rivera, widow of Vargas, one of the leading dealers in the nation's drug traffic.

The mortal remains of Martha Stella de Rivera, charred by fire, were discovered on the site known as "Aguabonita," located 3 kilometers from Silvania. They were inside a Renault-12 car which the perpetrators of the crime had set afire in the hope of preventing the identification of their victim.

When the identity of the murdered woman had been officially established yesterday, the authorities concluded that the murder was another link in the long chain of crimes that have been occurring for the past several years in Bogoa, in the course of a terrible "vendetta."

The series of murders began after the kidnapping of Bersey Espinosa de Gil, who was returned after several million pesos were paid in ransom. That abduction was attributed by Conrado Espinosa, Bersey's father, to Julio Vargas and his wife, Veronica Rivera de Vargas, as revenge for problems that had arisen in the drug traffic, an activity in which both families had been engaged for a considerable length of time, heading expert and highly dangerous rings.

Series of Murders

Following the kidnapping and ransom of Bersey, a mortal enmity ensued between the two groups, with its first outbreak on 6 March 1977, when Julio

Vargas, husband of Veronica Rivera, and an individual who was with him, were shot to death inside the "Los Doce Cesares" grille, located north of Bogota. It was claimed that these crimes were committed by a group headed by Mario Gil, the husband of Bersey Espinosa.

Eleven days later, Mario Gil was also a victim of the "vendetta," when he was killed while leaving the "El Canecao" Turkish baths, accompanied by his spouse, Bersey, who was miraculously saved from the same fate. On that occasion, an individual who served as a bodyguard for the murdered drug trafficker was also gunned down by the shots fired by the perpetrators of the homicidal attack.

2909
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

TANK TRUCK, TRAFFICKER SEIZED NEAR CAQUEZA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Jan 80 p 7-A

[Text] A 5-ton shipment of pressed marihuana proceeding from the Llanos Orientales to Bogota and eventually destined for Tumaco was seized by units of the F-2 near Caqueza.

For transporting the drug the traffickers used a modern tank truck P-900, double-truck type, two of its central tanks being especially fitted to hold the clandestine shipment, and the two remaining tanks contained ACPM.

The driver of the vehicle who identified himself as Flavio Oliverio Diaz Fernandez, was captured in the operation. He stated that he had taken over the tank truck at a gasoline station on the outskirts of the town of Villavicencio and that he did not know what the truck contained since he had been hired in Bogota when he applied for work at the enterprise Servitanques. He said that he did not know the name of the owner of the shipment.

The confiscated tank truck is an enormous apparatus with four separate sections which were especially designed so that each could carry a different type of merchandise.

The two central compartments had been fitted so that the pressed marihuana bundles did not come into contact with the metal lining of the tank. In this manner when the tanks were struck they sounded empty and one reached the conclusions that they were not carrying any kind of shipment.

The upper part had a large screw type cover which was removed to load and unload the marihuana.

The value of the confiscated marihuana on the local market is more than 10 million pesos. The driver, Flavio Oliverio Diaz Fernandez, reported that he had instructions to say that the ACPM he was transporting was to help victims of the earthquake in Tumaco.

Or The Coast

The Military forces have also struck several blows against the drug trafficking rings on the north coast of Colombia.

At Bello Horizonte, Migueo, Department of La Guajira, troops from the Cartagena batallion seized seven bundles of marihuana and three of marihuana seeds.

Troops from the Rondon batallion captured Carlos Bienvenido Ojeda, who was transporting 28 bundles of marihuana in a light truck F-350, in El Conejo, municipality of Fonseca, also in La Guajira. The vehicle was also seized.

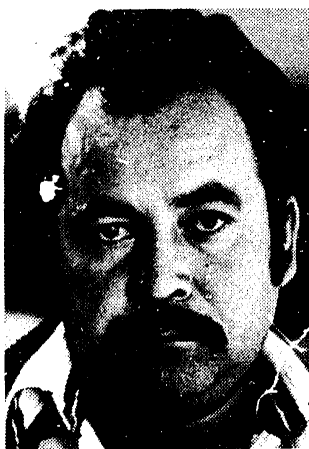
Units of the La Popa Batallion also seized a light truck in which 14 bundles of the drug were being transported. The action took place in El Algarrobo, Department of Magdalena.

Finally, an auxiliary tank containing 2,500 gallons of airplane gasoline was found at the clandestine air strip Willy, at Dibulla, La Guajira. The fuel was intended for a plane belonging to the traffickers which did not get to land because of the action by the troops.

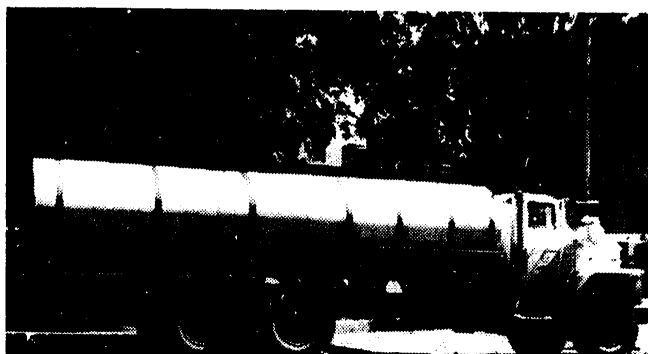
In Cesar

The police seized 20 bundles of marihuana in an action against rings operating in the Department of Cesar.

The operation was carried out in the municipality of San Diego by the anti-narcotic squad of the National Police.



Flavio Oliverio Diaz Fernandez, arrested



The modern tank truck, designed for the transport of marihuana, which was supposed to be shipped to the United States via the Pacific coast.

9204

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE AT CAQUETA--Neiva, 2 Jan--An antinarcotics squad of the Office of the Attorney General seized a shipment of cocaine initially valued at 200 million pesos at the Villaher de Doncello plantation, Caqueta, thus delivering a solid blow to the narcotics traffickers who operate in the south of the country. The seizure was made after a surveillance which began in Bogota, by a team consisting of eight men under the command of Retired Major of the Colombian Armed Forces (FAC), Esteban Echavarria. The contraband consisted of 112 kg of cocaine and was packed in 99 plastic bags, ready to be sent to the interior of the country. During the operation Edgar Rico Grisales, Wilson Rico Grisales, German Munoz Tobon and Jose Edgar Albarran were arrested as suspects. Also seized in this action were: a Dodge minibus belonging to the Conaltra company, a privately owned light truck and the following arms: a 7.65 Walter pistol, two 38 long revolvers and a magazine with nine cartridges. The cocaine was burned by the investigators in the presence of the judge and the deputy of the municipality of Paujil while the persons arrested were turned over to a court in Florencia. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Jan 80 p 11-B] 9204

GUAJIRA SEIZURE, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--La Guajira Police have dealt a double blow to drug trafficking rings, by seizing weapons and radio transmitters. The actions took place in Riohacha in the Campanas region where the members of the criminal ring operated. In the actions carried out by members of the police persons identified as Gonzalo Jimenez, Carlos Arturo Gomez Angulo, William Almesano, Nestor Zarate Fernandez and Brito Palmazano were also captured. During the action three 30 caliber carbines, 3 fragmentation grenades, a 38 caliber long revolver, munitions and magazines were seized. Two radios for terrestrial communication and capable of being used for communicating with planes were also seized. This is the first action in 1980 by Colombian authorities against the organizations engaged in drug trafficking in La Guajira. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 8 Jan p 11] 9204

INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING RAIDED--Neiva, 17 Jan--The police recaptured four escapees from the Neiva jail during a special action which at the same time resulted in the discovery of a center for the packaging and distribution

of cocaine. The persons who were turned over to the appropriate authorities are Orlando Caicedo Rivera, Eugenia Perdomo, Jose Martinez Rodriguez and Luis Hernando Celis. In their possession were found: 1,900 gm of cocaine, glass tubing, a sealer and a large amount of plastic for making bags. The capture of these persons was effected through a surveillance carried out by members of the police antinarcotics squad operating in the Department of Huila. This blow against the drug traffickers has uncovered a large organization engaged in drug trafficking between Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Jan 80 p 11-A] 9204

CSO: 5300

GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS' ARREST--National Police Narcotics agents have arrested Raul Guzman Arevalo, Hector Alfredo Gonzalez and Maria de Jesus Chavez, all Salvadorans, who are members of an international drug ring. It was learned confidentially that they had been bringing large quantities of cocaine into the country for transfer to Mexico. [Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

POLICE INVESTIGATED FOR PROTECTING DRUG, LABOR TRAFFICKERS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 13 Jan 80 Sec B p 1

[Text] The Federal Security Office has ordered a reinforcement of its detachments on the northern border of the country, for the purpose of starting a forceful attack against the traffickers in drugs and laborers without papers, on the assumption that those criminals are being protected by police chiefs.

This newspaper learned from a well informed source that, in Nuevo Laredo, the heads of the State Judicial Police and the Secret Service, Matias Cuellar and Jose Maria Ibarra, are under federal surveillance and investigation. They have been identified as the leading "godfathers" of the rings of labor traffickers operating in this town.

According to the confidential information obtained by EL MANANA, the reinforcement consists of the assignment of 60 of the most skillful and unrelenting agents of the Federal Security Office, who have been distributed among the border towns between Matamoros and Piedras Negras.

It was also learned that the action which will be started with great force against the drug and labor traffickers was ordered by the Secretariat of Government, in compliance with instructions from the president, in view of the increase in both activities that has become evident.

Comdr Alberto Estrella will be in charge of the operation against the criminals, whose main centers of activity may be Piedras Negras, Ciudad Acuna, Nuevo Laredo, Ciudad Mier, Guerrero, Miguel Aleman, Reynosa and Matamoros.

The Collusion Will End

According to the same source of information, the federal agents have a list containing the names of the leading labor traffickers in Nuevo Laredo, which is headed by some individuals known by the nickname "Los Texas."

Also included in the investigation are the alleged ties that exist between the labor traffickers and the heads of the local security forces, who have

been charged with acting as "godfathers" protecting this illegal activity, in exchange for which they reportedly receive large amounts of money.

The investigation is so exhaustive and stringent that it has also reached members of the Federal Judicial Police detailed to this town.

The spectacular battle against labor and drug traffickers is unprecedented in Nuevo Laredo, because it is quite obvious that the action is a serious, definitive one for the purpose of eliminating these "Mafias."

Recently, there was a similar campaign in Tijuana, Baja California, which led to the capture of about 100 labor traffickers.

The purpose of this action is to reduce the surreptitious movement of poor Mexicans to the neighboring country, and to cut the rate of drug trafficking.



The presence of 50 members of the Federal Security Office caused perplexity among the citizenry, because they observe men armed with submachine guns coming and going, preparing to start their battle against the trafficking of drugs and laborers without papers on the northern border of the country.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

NOTORIOUS MARIHUANA TRAFFICKER ACQUITTED OF CHARGES

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 29 Jan 80 p 8

[Text] Last night, Carlos Martinez, alias "La Pingua," who was tried for drug trafficking and murder, recovered his freedom, after the second district judge, located in Nuevo Laredo, issued an acquittal on behalf of the aforementioned individual.

"La Pingua" had already been released for the crime of murder committed on Pedro del Fierro Gonzalez, as well as for the crime of theft of motorboats abroad, for which reason he was captured by the Federal Judicial Police months ago.

However, upon being apprehended, a warrant which had been issued for his arrest as the owner of 3 tons of marihuana was carried out; and it was precisely this crime of which he was acquitted yesterday by the second district judge located in Nuevo Laredo.

The official letter containing the acquittal for Carlos Martinez, alias "La Pingua," was received about 1730 hours yesterday afternoon at the second penal court in this town which, acting on behalf of the federal court, issued the order for "La Pingua's" release.

After the prison warden, Lucio Flores Castillo, had checked to ascertain whether there was any other case pending which involved him, he finally released "La Pingua."

"La Pingua" had been in prison for 6 months, and it was recently commented that he would probably be sentenced to 7 years for crimes against health; but, when the final verdict was handed down, he was acquitted of all guilt.

The aforementioned individual was the one who, some years ago, killed Pedro del Fierro Gonzalez with several gunshots, in the "La Posta" bar at 6th and Hernan Cortes Streets.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MASSIVE DRUG BURNING IN MAZATLAN, CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 27 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 26 January--Yesterday, approximately 5.5 tons (5,368 kilograms) of marihuana, 1,850 kilograms of heroin, 3 kilograms of marihuana seed and 800 grams of poppy seed were burned by health authorities, in the presence of judicial and military officials in this town.

The destruction of the drugs and narcotics took place during the morning, on the grounds of the Loma Atravesada military installations; and they were considered to have been worth over 10 million pesos on the black market.

The drugs were seized by judicial and federal authorities, and are related to 36 preliminary and completed investigations which occurred during 1979 and thus far in 1980.

The event was headed by the representative of the Secretariat of Health, Dr Reynaldo Ramos Varela, District Judge Raymundo Veloz Segura and, representing the 9th Military Zone, Gen Lorenzo Nunez Aviles, commander of the local garrison.

Also in attendance were Jorge Patlan Oregel and Abel Islas Mendoza, the federal social representatives in this district, and Federal Judicial Police Comdr Mario Coeto Roa, as well as the commander of the 11th Infantry Battalion, Col Jesus Roman Diaz.

The combined drugs and narcotics, most of which were in the Army's custody, at Loma Atravesada, represent the constant effort against the drug traffic being made by the authorities from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and the Army.

The 36 investigations in which the marihuana and other drugs that were burned were involved had been conducted in the course of probes carried out by the Federal Judicial Police and Army detachments in the mountains, action which has not been terminated, according to Jorge Patlan Oregel, who stated that the antidrug campaign is being continued uninterruptedly by the Mexican Armed Forces and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

The black market value of the drugs which were burned has been estimated by the Federal Judicial Police at 10 million pesos. But the effect against the drug traffic consisted mainly of the destruction of the poppy and marihuana seed, which represented over 30 hectares planted with these drugs.

The result of these activities has been a reduction in the illegal acts committed by individuals from the region, based upon the average number of captures made during the past 6 months in the area.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

COURT SENTENCES HEROIN, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 30 Jan 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] The third district judge, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, issued two sentences. Agustin Duran Reyes and Juan Paz Candonosa were found guilty of a crime against health, and received prison sentences.

Proceedings 139/979 were brought against the former, for a crime against health in the degrees of heroin trafficking and marihuana possession; and he received a 7-year prison sentence and a fine of 5,000 pesos, or another month of incarceration.

As for Paz Candonosa, he received a sentence of 5 years and 3 months in jail, and a fine of 5,000 pesos.

Duran Reyes was arrested on 26 May 1979 after the Federal Judicial Police learned that he was engaged in heroin trafficking at No 3008 Iguala Street. He was arrested, and confessed that, the day before, he had given 2 ounces of heroin to an individual named Guillermo Guajardo, so that he could sell the drugs in the United States, but the latter was arrested. He also admitted that he had purchased the 2 ounces of heroin 3 months earlier from three persons, identified as Jesus Abel Moreno and a certain Ramon. The latter was arrested for trafficking in Monterrey.

At the time of his arrest, Duran Reyes was found to have in his possession a small marihuana cigarette, which he had bought at the railroad passenger station.

The records on Paz Candonosa show that he was subjected to proceedings 23/978, having been arrested because, on 23 January 1979, when an inspection detail set up at kilometer 30 of the Reynosa-Monterrey highway arrested Mrs Hilda Luna Moreno, who was carrying two bags containing 3 kilograms of marihuana on a bus, the woman confessed that her husband, Juan Paz, had asked her to take the drugs to Reynosa.

The federal police went to Reynosa and, at No 115 Nuevo Leon Street, in the Rodriguez development, they arrested Rogelio Zarate Herrera, who said that the marijuana was actually for him, and that he had purchased it from Juan Paz Candonosa. Zarate Herrera is currently serving a prison sentence of 5 years and 6 months, and has been fined 5,500 pesos.

2909
CSO: 5330

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PANAMA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Juan Carlos Ochoa Calle, a Colombian student who had arrived aboard a SAM airline flight from Colombia and was on his way to Nassau, was arrested at Tocumen International Airport in Panama on 5 February when 450 grams of cocaine were found in his possession. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Feb 80 p 11-B PA]

COCAINE CONFISCATION--More than \$1 million worth of cocaine was confiscated early today from U.S. citizen Peter Carlyle Elliot at Tocumen Airport on his arrival from Lima on a flight to Houston. The 35-year-old insurance salesman had hidden the cocaine in plastic bags attached to his arms, waist and legs. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 8 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 5300

EGYPT

INCREASE IN DRUG TRAFFIC, ADDICTION IN ARAB STATES

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 5 Jan 80 p 2

[Article by Ahmad Abu-Bakr: "Clouds of Blue Smoke in the Skies of the Arab World; Lebanon Number One Producer, But Only for Export; Youth More Addicted to Narcotic Pills; 220 Percent-Annual Increase in Smuggling Attempts to Bahrain"]

[Text] Dope, narcotics, addiction--these words stand for a single problem which is gradually growing more severe in the Arab states. Statistics reveal the increasing rate at which the drug phenomenon has spread through the region during the past 10 years. In Bahrain, for example, the annual rate of increase in the number of smuggling attempts reached 220 percent. In Jordan, the number of smugglers rose an average of 50 percent. What are the facts about the clouds of "blue smoke" floating in the skies of the Arab world?

Fifty Percent Are Youths

Dr 'Abd-al-Wahab al-'Ashmawi, secretary general of the Arab Organization for Social Defense, says: "The most dangerous aspects of this problem are the contagious spread of addiction among youths. Youths now represent 50 percent of all addicts and users. Even more serious is the fact that they begin the habit at an early age.

"As a result, they offer their communities a new generation which is ruined, both mentally and physically.

"Moreover, the habit compels them to commit grosser crimes in order to provide the financing necessary to practice it. Gratification of the desire to 'escape' costs a single individual in the Arab world from 20 to 50 pounds a month for the purchase of dope!"

The Problem in Figures

Dr 'Abd-al-Wahab al-'Ashmawi indicates that his organization has been trying for a long time to gather data on the extent of this problem in

in the Arab states in order to define its magnitude and study it. However, most of the governments met requests for such data with silence until 1978. Then, some of them softened their position somewhat, and provided the organization with statistics on the number of smuggling cases uncovered, the total number of criminals involved, and the quantities of drugs found with them for the years 1977 and 1978.

It is clear from initial assessment of the situation that the Gulf states head the list of countries with widespread drug use, followed by Syria. However, the rest of the states are not far behind.

These studies clarify the nature of the problem, and reveal the following facts for the period 1977 to 1978:

--In Bahrain: The number of smuggling attempts uncovered increased by 220 percent, and the number of indicted individuals increased by 160 percent.

--Jordan: The number of indicted individuals increased by 50 percent from 71 to 105.

--UAE: The number of cases tried by the courts jumped from 77 to 104, and the number of indicted individuals rose from 146 to 171.

--Syria: The quantity of confiscated drugs increased from 1,550 to 2,019 kilograms, a rise of 35 percent.

--Iraq: In 1978, the police uncovered seven cases involving 13 suspects, while only three cases involving six suspects were uncovered in 1977.

--Kuwait: The quantity of confiscated drugs remained the same at 80 kilograms, while the number of criminals involved increased from 112 to 131.

Rings

--Libya: The smugglers in Libya form extremely large rings to transport extremely small quantities. While 18 kilograms of narcotics were seized by the police, there were 183 individuals charged in 75 separate attempts. In other words, each smuggler's share was only 1 percent [sic] of a kilogram!

Dr al-'Ashmawi comments on these figures with a simple fact on which law enforcement and anti-narcotics officers agree: namely, that for every attempt uncovered by the police, at least 10 other attempts are successfully carried through!

Dr Al-Ashmawi explains: "The most widespread types of drugs in the region are hashish, opium and cocaine. At the bottom of the list is qat, which is confined to Yemen and Somalia.

"Five years ago, pills began to slip into the Arab states. Since that time they have spread rapidly, perhaps due to a desire for change on the part of the addicts!"

The Forbidden and the Permitted

The odd thing is that the Arab user prefers drugs over alcoholic beverages in spite of the great danger of drugs, because he is under the delusion that drugs are permitted while various religions have specifically forbidden alcohol.

Sunflowers Instead of Hashish and Opium

Maj Gen Mahmud Sami Nassar, director of the Arab Bureau for Combatting Drugs, points to Lebanon as the main narcotics supply station for the Arab states, providing 75 percent of the drugs they receive.

A report prepared by the UN-sponsored International Organization for the Control of Narcotics revealed that the area of Ba'labakk and al-Harmal is considered the main center of hashish and opium cultivation in the Arab world.

In the early 1970's the Lebanese Government began to carry out a program to eliminate cultivation of narcotic plants, and substitute sunflowers, but the explosion of the Lebanese internal situation prevented the government from continuing this program.

Successful Efforts, But...

The Lebanese Government resumed its campaign in 1977, raiding and destroying a large heroin manufacturing laboratory, and destroying the opium poppy crop in Ba'labakk.

Cocaine Preferred in Lebanon

Major General Nassar adds: "The curious thing is that the Lebanese are not addicted to drugs, and the limited number of Lebanese drug users prefer cocaine!"

Iran is the second largest exporter of drugs to the Arab states, followed by Morocco. These two countries together provide 25 percent of the drugs which reach the Arab dope user.

Maj Gen Mahmud Nassar reviews the penalties which the Arab states impose on individuals convicted in drug cases.

The most curious law relating to drugs in the Arab world is the Yemeni law which permits the use of qat on Thursdays, Fridays and official holidays. But those who participate in the [use] or sale of qat on other days are subject to imprisonment for a period of 1 to 5 years!

8591
CSO: 5300

EGYPT

NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN EGYPT EXAMINED

Cairo AL-AMN AL-'AM in Arabic Jul 79 pp 9-11

[Article by Maj Gen Sami As'ad Farag, Assistant Minister of the Interior and Director of the General Anti-Narcotics Department]

[Text] History tells us that the Egyptians knew about narcotics since ancient times. The Pharaonic drawings found in the tombs of the Pharaohs confirmed that the ancient Egyptians had used opium in making medical preparations for treating children and is what has been done over the centuries when the people of the Sa'id of Egypt [i.e., Upper Egypt] used the poppy to induce sleep in ill-tempered or sick children.

A long time passed in which the Egyptians forgot about planting opium until the time of Muhammad 'Ali Pasha the Great, the Wali of Egypt, who wished to revive its cultivation after learning of the wide-spread fame achieved by the opium of Thebes, the capitol of Pharaonic Egypt. For this purpose, he sent for several Armenians who were experts in its cultivation in Izmir [Turkey]. The cultivation of opium in Egypt succeeded. Raw opium was exported to Turkey which re-exported it to many countries, including America and China, for scientific purposes and medical preparations. As for the poppy seed, it was pressed and lantern oil extracted from it while the dried plant stocks were used for fuel.

It is curious [to note] that opium was one of the basic commodities which the Americans wished to purchase directly after establishing the first commercial relations between the two countries. On 10 October 1833, Mr Louis Macklin, the American foreign minister at the time, requested that Mr William Hodgson, a member of the American embassy in Constantinople, travel to Egypt to ascertain to what extent it would be possible to realize practically establishing trade relations with the Pasha of Egypt which would be independent of the existing relations between the United States and the Sublime Porte in Turkey.

On 13 December 1834, Mr Hodgson sent a report to his foreign minister which stated in part: "In Egypt is a variety of numerous commodities exported to the United States of America by indirect means which encourages establishing direct trade relations with Alexandria immediately. Regarding opium, it

behooves us to attract the attention of business magnates to this market since it is expected that the coming year's crop will reach 40,000 uqqahs [a unit of weight, one uqqah equalling 1.248 KG], which is equal to 100,000 ratls [unit of weight, one ratl equalling 449.28 grams]. Actually, they have begun to bring it in for speculation in this valuable commodity. With regard to quality of category, it is divided into three grades, first, second and third which are, respectively, 116, 101 and 91 piasters per uqqah (the dollar equals 19 piasters). Analysis of Egyptian opium in London and Boston confirms the amount of morphine extracted from it exceeds by approximately 12 percent the morphine extracted from Turkish opium."

The cultivation of opium in the era of Muhammad 'Ali Pasha the Great realized immense profits. There wasn't any problem. The abuse of opium was limited to the infrequent Turks among the Egyptians. The situation remained that way until the responsible authorities confirmed that the raw opium grown locally was not exported but sold secretly inside the country so that the people used it for narcotization, a matter which led to serious damage to public health. Decree No 21 of 1926 was issued completely banning the cultivation of the poppy and punishing the violator with a prison term not exceeding a week and a fine of not more than one Egyptian pound.

As for the hemp plant [cannabis hindi], it was discovered outside, in the south of the Caspian Sea, the Caucasus, the hills and mountains of Southern China and from there spread to China eastward, Iraq, Iran, India southward, then Asia Minor and from there branching off to the Balkans in Europe and to Syria, Palestine and Egypt. Ibn al-Bitar, the Arab physician in the 7th century AH (13th AD), described the hemp which was planted in the gardens of Egypt. (It is known as hashish, a narcotic substance in which long addiction to it causes insanity) The response of the people to the pursuit of hashish led to it being planted everywhere; the city of Cairo became notorious for its cultivation. When the harmful effects of the hashish practice became apparent, modern Egypt witnessed the first legislation on narcotics, an order of the Sublime Porte on 29 March 1879 forbidding the importation of hashish, requiring the customs authorities to confiscate that which was imported; and banning its cultivation, making this crime punishable by a fine of not more than 20 piasters (i.e., two pounds).

After the First World War (and many of its affects), white narcotics (heroin and cocaine) entered Egypt. People in the upper classes were the first to pursue it but it wasn't long before the contagion of addiction to them moved to the lower classes. It began to become a disaster from which we were rescued only by the Second World War with the cessation of the movement of the ships which used to carry this material from the producing areas. Their prices rose to exorbitant heights, forcing the addicts to switch from them to black narcotics (hashish and opium).

This historical background was necessary to demonstrate the dimensions of the problem. Since the Second World War, hashish and opium have been the narcotics preferred by Egyptian users and addicts. Hashish came to us from Greece, then from several Arab regions where its cultivation spread in the forties and finally the main source of hashish in Egypt was Lebanon from which huge loads poured into Egypt.

The anti-narcotics agencies doubled their efforts to stop this torrent of hashish. In 1978, our seizures of hashish and opium were as follows:

	Kilograms	Grams	Centigrams
Hashish	16,223	530	90
Opium	338	631	89

The major source of opium smuggled into us was Turkey. But the efforts exerted by Turkey were effective in combatting the illegal cultivation of hashish and the legal cultivation of the poppy in order to prevent the seepage of production, allocated for scientific and medical purposes, to the illegal trafficking market. I myself noticed these efforts which I visited Turkey 19 and 20 May 1977 during the convening of the second conference of the Mediterranean states for cooperation between police and customs and which Egypt was honored to be represented in it.

The contacts between us and Turkey led to the preparation of a protocol for cooperation between Egypt and Turkey in the field of combating narcotics smuggling. It was signed in Cairo on 26 March 1978. This protocol will support the joint international struggle against the illegal narcotics trafficking organizations.

At the end of the 60's and the beginning of the 70's, we saw the beginning of the phenomenon of misusing material affecting the psychological condition or [the misuse of] narcotic tablets which produced effects similar to those caused by natural narcotics. The spread of this material was assisted by its cheapness, the ease of getting it from the pharmacies, cigarette kiosks and the peddler, since the use of most of this material was not in violation of the law and regulations because it was produced basically for the treatment of some maladies. The significance of these tablets is in the large variety and doubtful symptoms.

The department counteracted this phenomenon and listed the tablets in circulation among the users, identifying them by their popular and scientific name. Then Decree No 295 of 1976 was issued by the Ministry of Health placing the most dangerous of the narcotic tablets on the first of the narcotics lists whereby they became natural narcotics in regard to crime and punishment. This decree was a step forward for scientific progress by agreeing upon most of the material included in the lists annexed to the 1971 agreement for material affecting psychological behavior. Moreover, in accordance with the department's proposal, Health Ministry Decree No 301 for 1976 was issued regulating the circulation of the least dangerous pills, not permitting their dispensing without a doctor's prescription. The department centered its attention on the source of this material and cracked down on a number of international smuggling gangs, including a gang of Egyptians, Syrians, Lebanese and Swiss when it brought in 2.5 tons of narcotic Motolon [phonetic] pills (six million pills) and another gang which brought in narcotic methaqualone powder so as to make it into pills in the country. Seized [in this instance]

was the gang, two tons of the narcotic substance and equipment for converting the powder into pills. Investigation revealed that narcotics shipment were sent from England to Cairo on aircraft of the British Airlines. Seized this year was 3,836 kilograms, 879 grams and 69 centigrams of material affecting psychological behavior. These efforts went far in alleviating the extent of this problem.

As for the planting of narcotics it posed no threat in the past since it wasn't planted in Egypt except in modest areas limited to personal use. But, in the years following the June, 1967 war, some adventurers planted opium in the remote areas and the central Delta islands. The planting realized huge profits compelling others to copy them. There was an increase in the planted areas in many governorates of Upper Egypt, Asyut especially, and several governorates of Lower Egypt [i.e., the Delta].

A plan was drawn up to conduct inspection campaigns whereby all human and material capabilities were mobilized. It included the places of this cultivation and concentrated on the Governorate of Asyut. In the first three months of 1978, we were able to seize 5,364,022 opium plants and 77,319 hemp [canabis hindi] plants. Seized in 1977 were 3 million opium plants and 290,000 hemp plants, as opposed to 180,000 opium plants and 125,000 hemp plants seized in 1976. This revealed very clearly the dangerous increase in areas planted in narcotic plants.

In an attempt to use ideal scientific methods to determine the places of these plantings, the department, in cooperation with the Remote Sensing Center at the Academy of Scientific Research, is conducting scientific researches, studies and field tests aimed at utilizing remote sensor technology to detect narcotic plants hidden among the traditional crops. This will enable guiding the [inspection] campaigns to them in order to eradicate them in the fastest time with the least effort.

CSO: 5300

EGYPT

INCREASE IN DRUG TRAFFIC, ADDICTION

Cairo UKTUBUR in Arabic 6 Jan 80 pp 56-57

[Article by Alfat al-Ghandur: "Use of Drugs Is an Illness and Can Be Treated"]

[Text] Statistics compiled by the Anti-Narcotics Department of the Organization for Social Defense Against Crime indicate that hashish, opium and narcotic pills entered Egypt at a higher rate in 1978. Some 18,374 kilograms of hashish, 434 kilograms of opium and 3,847 kilograms of narcotic pills were brought into the country during that year. This gives Egypt the highest volume of drug traffic among the Arab states, followed by Syria and Lebanon.

These substances are smuggled into the country by numerous methods, the latest of which involves the use of chocolate products containing quantities of hashish.

Nevertheless, modern scientific methods have enabled authorities to uncover smuggling techniques, and to identify drug users by means of blood, urine and breath tests. This method has been completely successful, especially in Egypt, because studies have shown that 95 percent of hashish users take the substance by smoking.

Dr Zayn-al-'Abidin Mubarak, head of the Crime and Technical Research Section of the National Research Center, reviews a number of experiments conducted abroad. In Denmark, researchers did an experiment on 10 individuals under medical observation. Having taken no other drugs, the subjects were given suitable doses of hashish with distilled water for a period of 5 minutes. The subjects were under the supervision of a psychologist who, at periodic intervals, collected urine samples before and after the doses of hashish. As a result, the researchers were able to detect some components of hashish in the urine within 2 hours of administration of the drug.

In West Germany, a study was conducted to see if hashish could be detected in the saliva of hashish smokers. Ten individuals smoked cigarettes containing narcotic substances. The researchers were able to confirm the

presence of tetrahydrocannabinol in saliva within 2 hours from the time the cigarettes were smoked.

In Egypt, a study was conducted on some drivers who took hashish by smoking. Again, it was possible to verify the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol in the saliva of the subjects.

Three Types of Drugs

Maj Can 'Abd-al-Mahsin Faraj, general director of the Ports Security Administration, classifies drugs into three types. Type one consists of natural drugs, which have a plant origin, and are taken directly or after preparation by simple methods which do not involve any chemical processes. This type includes hashish, opium and qat.

Type two consists of the processed drugs, which are substances derived from natural drugs and subjected to simple chemical processes. These include morphine, heroin, codeine and cocaine. Morphine is derived from opium. It comes in the form of a powder which is soft to the touch or in the form of round tablets. In East Asia, it is manufactured in the form of cubes on which various marks and names are stamped. Its color can be either white or pale yellow. Morphine is used as a painkiller. Frequent use leads to addiction. It can be taken by means of hypodermic injection. Thus taken, morphine is 10 to 20 times more effective than opium, which is taken by mouth. Heroin is derived from morphine, and comes in the form of a white powder which is so soft that it disappears when rubbed. The powder is extremely bitter, because toxic substances are added to it. It smells like vinegar. When bought on the market, however, it is adulterated with sugar or glucose. It comes wrapped in cellophane or plastic film to protect it from moisture. Heroin is considered one of the most dangerous narcotics because it is 10 times as strong as morphine. It is the narcotic which is most sought after by addicts. It is taken intravenously in a water solution or by inhalation.

Codeine is derived from poppy plants and from opium. It is processed as a narcotic through a chemical conversion process involving morphine. Because it is a morphine derivative, it has characteristics similar to those of morphine. Addiction to codeine is extremely rare, because it has to be taken for long periods of time before it can cause addiction. Codeine is taken by mouth or by injection. It is a white odorless powder which is bitter to the taste. It is an effective cough medicine.

Cocaine is derived from the leaves of the coca shrub. It is a white, crystalline powder which is soft to the touch and resembles snow. It is often adulterated with boric acid or bicarbonate of soda. It is taken either by sniffing or by hypodermic injection. Peru and Bolivia are among the major sources of cocaine in the world.

Type three consists of the synthetic drugs, which are made in laboratories by chemical methods without the use of any natural substances. There are three types of synthetic drugs:

1. The depressants, which are the most common of the synthetic drugs. This is a group of tranquilizing and sedative substances derived from barbituric acid. These substances are used in the treatment of diseases and disorders requiring tranquilization and sleep. They are in the form of capsules or tablets. The normal medical dosage to induce sleep ranges from 15 to 30 milligrams, whereas the addict takes approximately 2,000 milligrams. These drugs vary as to how long their action lasts. Usually, the substances which are effective for a brief period of time are the most used by addicts. There are tranquilizers which doctors prescribe to induce calmness and reduce anxiety without inducing drowsiness or reducing mental ability or physical efficiency. Although it is difficult to estimate the extent to which these drugs are abused, the most common depressants are valium and librium.

2. The stimulants, known as the amphetamines. These are substances which stimulate the central nervous system. They are used medically to treat nervous breakdowns and overweight, and cause a loss of desire to sleep. They are tablets which make the user feel energetic and happy. For this reason they are called "happy pills" or "eye openers"--names indicative of their effect. Athletes take these drugs because they keep them from feeling fatigue. The normal dose for treatment with amphetamines is no more than three tablets a day, but addicts take by injection up to 100 tablets dissolved in water. Two types of amphetamines are benzedrine and dexedrine. Dexedrine pills are popularly known as "black bombers." The drug methamphetamine, which is the strongest of the amphetamines, is known as "crystal" or "businessman's trip" in the United States.

3. The hallucinogenic drugs, which were used in the past in certain religious rituals in Mexico and North America. The medical uses of these drugs are extremely limited, and are confined to medical research conducted in some countries on mental disturbance. The substance LSD, which is produced illegally, is considered the most widely used of these drugs. It is prepared in the form of a colorless and tasteless liquid

Treatment Is Possible--Physically and Psychologically

With regard to the method of treatment of addiction, Dr Jamal Madi Abu-al-'Azayim says: "Addicts are treated at the clinics of the Central Society for the Prohibition of Alcoholic Beverages and the Combatting of Drugs. Dependence on drug use poses a threat, especially in Egypt, despite the efforts which have been made to combat it. The society was founded in 1968, and has so far opened three clinics, one each in the quarters of Midan al-'Atabah, al-Wali and Abu-al-'Azayim Mosque in al-Sayyidah Zaynab. A large number of addicts considered by the law to be ill make regular visits for treatment of their own accord. The clinic aims at treating addicts who come forward voluntarily, as well as continuing the treatment of addicts released from sanitoriums, if they so request. The clinic also grants social relief to families during the period of treatment, combats social problems in the environment of addicts, conducts scientific research on the phenomenon of addiction, and ultimately spreads awareness of the physical and psychological harmful effects of addiction."

Dr Abu-al-'Azayim adds: "In addition to its therapeutic role, the clinic works to change traditional notions in the minds of people in general, and addicts in particular, that addicts are criminals. Instead, the clinic seeks to spread the correct therapeutic view that addiction is an illness which can be treated. The clinics can effectively perform their basic role when a correct therapy is prescribed, and addicts seek treatment of their own volition. This has a great impact on improving the condition and minimizing relapses of the addict. Egypt uses a modern method of treatment which is considered unique. According to this method, the addict comes to the clinic spontaneously and out of his own free will. He is treated in complete confidentiality, without the use of any waiting lists, and within his own community. In addition, the treatment is inexpensive in keeping with the resources of the addict.

"In the past, treatment was carried out with methadone, which was extremely expensive, and therefore failed. The patients became addicted to methadone, and the treatment itself constituted an unexpected new danger. Now, however, treatment is carried out with diluted insulin. Insulin helps stimulate the addict's appetite and treats loss of weight. Statistics indicate that the weight of most addicts ranges from 45 to 60 kilograms. Thus, their physical and psychological conditions improve as a result of returning to normal weight. Insulin also helps addicts overcome depression. The common view among addicts is that injection is a successful treatment. Thus, the use of insulin and hypodermic injection has the psychological effect of increasing confidence in the treatment. In addition, insulin is preferred over other means of treatment because of its low cost."

Medical research confirms that the addict has a weak and debilitated will. Therefore, in addition to treating addiction, the clinic treats the addict's subdued will, so that it may mature, grow stronger, and begin to act as a barrier between the addict and his longing for drugs. Statistics show that the clinics of the Central Society have accepted 3,356 cases of addiction to opium, alcoholic beverages, hashish and pills. These cases have been investigated from the social, medical and psychological standpoints. The statistics also show that in 1978, 38.7 percent of addicts use opium. 27 percent of drug users take it as a stimulant, 11 percent as medicine. 73.6 percent of the drug users are married. 46.6 percent of drug users are illiterate, 1.2 percent [well] educated. Finally, 27 percent of drug users are between 35 and 40 years of age.

Col Muhammad Fathi 'Id of the General Administration for Combatting Drugs says: "The spread of drug use, especially the use of hashish, is due to the widespread belief among a wide range of people that divine laws do not forbid it. The basis of this belief is that there is no explicit passage about drug use in the Koran or the Sunna, because drugs were not known during the early period of Islam, but appeared toward the end of the 6th century of the Moslem calendar."

Dr Isma'il al-Daftar, professor of Islamic law at Al-Azhar University, says: "The verdict on drug use is that it is forbidden, because Islam is dedicated to the idea of providing protection and care for the mind."

Dr al-Daftar adds: "Drug use represents a transgression against man, because it destroys the power which God placed in him, namely the mind. It is also a transgression against the organs of the body, because it hinders some of them from properly performing their functions. Religious law prohibits any human being from committing a transgression against himself either wholly or in part. Moreover, drugs are among the factors which cause crime and cause people to turn away from prayer, because of their effect on the intellect and the imagination. God calls for the prohibition of liquor when he says [in the Koran]: 'Satan uses wine and gambling to induce enmity and hatred among you, and to turn you away from God and from prayer.' Drugs come under the same dictate, because they are inebriating like wine. The difference in name does not matter. Lady 'A'ishah [wife of the Prophet] said: 'God did not prohibit wine because of its name, but because of its effect.' Thus, every drink that has the same effect as wine is forbidden just as wine is forbidden."

The phenomenon of the use of hashish has been a complicated problem in societies and cultures through the ages, even before the year 2730 B.C., when the Chinese called it "that which delivers from sins." However, they later referred to it as "the giver of joy and delight." The Hindus called hashish the "divine guider" or "that which lightens sorrows."

The ancient Egyptians were familiar with the hemp or "hashish" plant, as papyrus documents indicate. During the reign of King Ramses, certain substances derived from this plant were used in washing diseased eyes. Hashish has spread to all parts of the world, and many states now suffer from this problem, especially as the majority of hashish users are youths of a young age. For this reason, the international seminar organized by the Arab Organization for Social Defense Against Crime met in Cairo to discuss the problem of drugs and methods of treatment.

8591
CSO: 5300

EGYPT

HEROIN SMUGGLER ARRESTED AT CAIRO AIRPORT

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Jan 80 p 12

[Article by Labinah 'Abd-al-'Aziz: "Employee Charged with Attempting to Smuggle 200,000 Egyptian Pounds Worth of Heroin at Cairo Airport"]

[Text] Cairo airport customs agents arrested an Egyptian passenger trying to smuggle in a quarter kilogram of refined heroin between sheets of Kleenex tissue in his bag. The goods seized have an estimated value of 200,000 Egyptian pounds. The district attorney's office decided to detain him for a period of four days pending disposition of the case.

The customs officers at the airport grew suspicious of the passenger because of his obvious confusion when he disembarked from a Lebanese Middle East Airlines flight. The arrested man confessed to Sami Bashir of the Narcotics Bureau that he was an employee of the Public Transit Authority, that he brought drugs into Egypt for a Jordanian named Abu Wa'il, and that he had received the bag from a person named Faysal al-Sharif (Lebanese) at Beirut airport. He said that al-Sharif owned hashish and opium farms in Lebanon.

8389
CSO: 5300

IRAN

LARGE HEROIN HAUL SEIZED BY AUTHORITIES

Tehran TIMES in English 9 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Tehran--Iranian narcotics officers seized 200 kilograms of heroin and arrested members of an armed drug- and weapons-smuggling ring, according to a Tehran radio broadcast Thursday.

The radio said it was the largest quantity of heroin confiscated in Iran in recent years and was found in a van in Takestan in Qazvin Province northwest of Tehran.

The number of persons arrested was not immediately available. The ring was involved in smuggling in eastern Iran, the radio said.

Officials said the heroin had come into Iran through eastern border posts. Some was to have been distributed inside Iran and the rest was to have been taken out of the country, the radio said.

The police drugs-squad has confiscated 526 kilograms of heroin, a quantity of opium and nearly 2 tons of hashish and has arrested 155 smugglers this year the radio said.

CSO: 5300

LIBERIA

GHANAIS BRINGING MARIHUANA TO MONROVIA ARRESTED

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 8 Feb 80 pp 3, 4

[Text] Another drug racket was over the weekend broken at Roberts International Airport, following the apprehension of two Ghanaian Nationals, Joshua Mensah and his nephew John Mensah who brought into the country more than \$50,000 worth of Marijuana.

Police sources at RIA, said that the marijuana was imported from Ghana, Accra on board Pan Am Flight No. 189.

The sources noted that before the drug arrived in the country Joshua Mensah had earlier contacted the Robertsfield Police Detachment Commanding Officer Major Charles E. Davis to help him clear the consignment of marijuana that was to arrive from Ghana shortly.

When Mensah requested this help from Major Davis, he (Davis) agreed to help him (upon tricks), but immediately introduced a detective to Mensah as a Customs Officers whom he said would help him to clear the marijuana.

Mensah who was very anxious to have his thousand dollars marijuana out of the airport area, at once gave the tag number of the three suitcases to the detective. Upon arrival of the three suitcases, Mensah took the detective to the terminal who was acting as a customs officer and identified the three suitcases of marijuana to the agent at which time he was nabbed by the agent along with his nephew. Both of them are in police custody.

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RHODESIA

NEW BODY TO COORDINATE WORK ON DRUG, ALCOHOL ABUSE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Feb 80 p 7

[Text] A new national body which is expected to coordinate the work of four others involved in alcohol and drug abuse has been formed.

The public relations officer for the new National Council on Alcohol Abuse and Drug Dependence, Mrs Moira Humphrey, said the body had been formed with a view to incorporating the activities of four other groups under an umbrella organisation.

The four groups were Alcoholics Anonymous, the Salisbury Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Drug Dependence Council, and the Bulawayo Mental Health Association.

A major factor in the formation of the new body was that with expected Government recognition, it would qualify for more funds from the Social Welfare Department than would the separate bodies.

Mrs Humphrey said the policy of the organisation was to "initiate and encourage the prevention and treatment of alcoholism and drug abuse" and to monitor the methods used in the promotion of alcohol and drugs.

The association had already drawn up plans for a halfway house for alcoholics in Marlborough, Salisbury, to be followed by a day centre for drug offenders. It also aimed to assist in research and education programmes, Mrs Humphrey said.

CSO: 5300

BELGIUM

ARRESTS MADE IN 'DRUG, GENDARMERIE' SCANDAL

Brussels LE SOIR in French 30 Jan 80 p 4

[Article by Rene Haquin: "Drugs in the Gendarmerie: the Fifth Arrest Confirmed"]

[Text] On Monday the fifth person arrested following the so-called "drugs in the gendarmerie" scandal that has turned up in the services under Maj Francois-- Andre Deckers, a former gendarme non-commissioned officer who is currently in the BIC [Criminal Information Administration]-Antwerp--appeared before the Brussels Council Chamber to hear again the report of the examining magistrate, Mr de Biseau d'Hauteville, on the subject of the activities of the National Drug Bureau [BND] and the BIC.

The magistrate's report makes one think that thanks to the action of the BND and the BIC, joined with that of the Americans, Belgium had become a Mecca for traffic; the official services had increased the false traffic there to attract, chiefly to the Brussels airport, large-scale traffickers, with the obvious goal of arresting them sooner or later.

The magistrate alluded to a former non-commissioned officer of the gendarmerie whom we have not mentioned before: it was Warrant Officer Philips, who in 1977 with the swindler Jean Touboul received a sum of 3,000,000 to dismantle a network. Philips and Touboul left for Spain with the gendarmerie's money. They have not been seen again.

Andre Deckers' counsel, Mme Slusny, without admitting the methods used by the BND or the BIC, however did point out to Chairman de Brabandere that this affair made her think of a hunt that has gone wrong: one takes it out on the dogs one has trained without dealing with those who organized the hunt.

Moreover, there is some question in the legal file of a complaint filed in Ghent in 1979 concerning many suitcases containing narcotics that have gone through Brussels National Airport since 1975. The complaint is directed at a band of Belgian and foreign (Pakistani, English and Dutch) traffickers, among them certain members of the BIC. One of them, who had a habit of disguising himself as a customs official (which was also the case with a BND gendarme), is one of the persons who have already been arrested.

The complaint also concerned a murder committed in the Brasschaat region, the motives for which may be tied in with the narcotics traffic that Maj Francois' BND knew about.

Finally, it was learned on Monday that a search had been ordered at the end of last week, still as part of the Francois affair, of the premises of an Antwerp attorney who counsel for Charles Kloonen, a BIC-Antwerp agent who was arrested on the same day as Maj Francois.

The investigators were looking for--and found--a document that, according to our information, would establish that Charles Kloonen was acting under the cover of certain authorities who are particularly implicated.

8946
CSO: 5300

BELGIUM

POLICE UNCOVER BANGKOK, BRUSSELS DRUG TRAFFIC

Brussels LE SOIR in French 1 Feb 80 p 4

[Article by Rene Haquin: "Drugs in the Gendarmerie: the Story of a Suitcase Brought Back from Bangkok"]

[Text] The investigation into drug traffic in the gendarmerie already has a continuation before the Brussels Criminal Court. In fact this month the 21st Chamber is trying a case involving narcotics traffic, weapons possession and association with malefactors directly linked with the heroin traffic organized by the gendarmerie between Bangkok and Brussels, at the time of the arrest in Karachi of a special envoy of the gendarmerie, Joseph Vienne. Vienne's mission was to bring back 5 kilos of drugs, but he took advantage of it to divert 22 kilos into the network directed by the dealer Albert Farcy. Vienne, who has been arrested in the meantime, is still in prison in Karachi; Farcy, sentenced in the Netherlands, has been on the run since 30 December 1979.

In the group of nine young defendants who appeared on Wednesday in criminal court in Brussels there is a Namur photographer, Michel Gigot, 35, who also took a trip to Bangkok. He was a dealer, a drug addict. It was proposed to him that he spend 15 days in the Thailand capital, known for its diverse pleasures, in return for his agreeing to make contact down there with Joseph Vienne.

What Gigot says he did not know is that in reality it was at the request of the gendarmes in the BND [Maj Francois' National Drug Bureau] and the agents of the BIC [Criminal Information Administration, under the ministry of Justice] that the trip was arranged. And that behind all this was a notorious trafficker, Albert Farcy, who had succeeded in gaining the confidence of police departments by promising to attract Chinese suppliers into his trap.

Michel Gigot then spend 15 extremely agreeable days in Bangkok--all expenses paid, of course. There he met with Vienne. On his return, when he was getting ready to take the plane, Vienne saw to it that he was given a ticket for

another flight. And Michel Gigot, therefore, took another plane, without trying to hard to understand why.

A suitcase labeled with his name and deposited at the airport by a Chinese traveled at the same time he did, in the plane's hold, Gigot arrived at Brussels National and a customs officer (perhaps one of the two non-commissioned officers of the gendarmerie who were arrested and whose custom it was to play the role of customs officers at the airport on behalf of the BND) took charge of the suitcase.

- Gigot, who never saw the baggage, says he did not know what it contained. A Justice Ministry functionary (a former PJ [Criminal Investigation Department] officer who went from there to the BIC) stated in 1979 that the suitcase conveyed by Gigot actually contained 8 kilos of heroin and that the drug, which was purchased by Vienne with money from the BIC, was destined to go to a Chinese in Amsterdam.

- Joseph Vienne, who was arrested in Karachi, was heard in Pakistan by means of letters rogatory composed by Principal Commissioner Julien de Grijse, within the framework of an inquiry into an assassination, and by Maj Francois, within the framework of the inquiry into narcotics trafficking. Vienne stated to the BND chief that the suitcase conveyed by Gigot really contained almost 25 kilos of heroin, but that only the Chinese knew that.

- Arrested in the Netherlands, Albert Farcy for his part stated to the investigators that the suitcase was filled with potassium sulfate!

Michel Gigot obviously cannot explain, and he pleads guilty. In this narcotics traffic case Justice decided in November 1979 to separate the dossier concerned with international traffic (Bangkok) and retain only the national traffic. We do not know why the Council Chamber rendered such an edict, but it is permissible to wonder if it does not bear some relation to the investigation already opened at that time, on the subject of Maj Francois' BND's activities.

- In this proceedings, which is taking place before the 21st criminal chamber, everything is in fact happening as if the Francois affair did not exist, whereas the dossier refers to it constantly. One must be initiated to understand something. Michel Gigot is accused of having associated with the trafficker Albert Farcy, while pretending to forget that Farcy was in reality associated with the BND and the BIC.

What the story does not say is exactly where the money came from. And this is just what the examining magistrate in the Francois affair, Mr de Biseau d'Hauteville, is trying to discover at this moment.

- Has the examining judge already asked Maj Vernailien, who is in charge of the main work of the inquiry, to verify the accounts of the gendarmerie's general staff? Has the major already uncovered in the accounts seized at the BIC certain answering elements? On that subject it is said that in some affairs that have backfired, the BIC's secret funds have sometimes served to replenish the gendarmerie's till.

- There were also two other sources of possible revenue. On the one hand, members of the BND and the BIC could have sold narcotics to recover the money lost, and perhaps for their own profit, too. Since they were left alone and everything seemed to go off without any trouble.

- On the other hand, it would seem, particularly from documents seized last week from an Antwerp attorney, that the American Drug Enforcement Administration also injected significant amounts into this traffic, and so they may have done the same thing for the BND and the BIC.

- So the Francois affair is shaking up many circles. In the Netherlands, where the heroin purchased by the Belgian gendarmerie was supposed to arrive, the anti-drug bureau of Commissioner Toogenaer in Amsterdam also possesses some answering elements. The Brussels branch of the American DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] will undoubtedly have to furnish some explanations. Finally, according to our information several superior officers of the gendarmerie have been playing musical chairs for the past two weeks.

8946
CSO: 5307

BELGIUM

■ DRUG ACTIVITIES AT SPA VILLA DESCRIBED

Brussels LE SOIR in French 30 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] For the past several weeks the Spa police have been having their attention drawn to unusual comings and goings in a property on the avenue des Tilleuls rented to a German national, Wolfgang Ingerfeld, 32, whose home is in Kapellen. A search was ordered and the use of a dog specially trained to sniff out narcotics was called for. The investigators uncovered 113 grams of hashish and several doses of LSD, equipment for weighing drugs, acetone and a sum amounting to 200,000 Belgian francs in deutschemarks.

The renter denies being involved in drug traffic and claims that the merchandise seized was intended for his personal consumption. A young German, aged 20, was also apprehended, but he was released. The investigators are focusing their search on two Dutch subjects who are accustomed to participate in this kind of activity. It is not ruled out that a vast international traffic may be involved, and that the Spa villa may have been just a way-station.

8946
CSO: 5300

FRANCE

SPECIALIST QUERIED ON 'TRUTH ABOUT SOFT DRUGS'

Paris LE POINT in French 11 Feb 80 pp 100-108

[Interview with Gabriel Nahas, Research Director at INSERM, by Pierre Desgraupes: "'Hash': Pierre Desgraupes Takes Stock of the Question With a French Specialist. The Hard Truth About Soft Drugs;" date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Should the use of hashish (or marijuana) be "decriminalized" on the grounds that it is no more dangerous than alcohol or tobacco? Recently, when teachers asked just that, an old dispute was revived and a lively controversy started. At the same time, in the United States, where several States have authorized the use of "hash," the Senate appears to have second thoughts following numerous reports from medical experts, among whom the Frenchman Gabriel Nahas, research director at the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM), and author of "Histoire du H" ["A History of Hash"] (published by Editions Robert Laffont). Pierre Desgraupes has asked him to retrace the extraordinary adventure of "hash," which began in China two thousand years ago, and to describe the effects of this so-called "soft" drug.

[Question] Professor Nahas, could you first tell me how you became interested in drugs and hash?

[Answer] Eleven years ago, in 1968, while living in the United States with my family, my wife and I, and other parents, were invited one evening to our elder daughter's school to attend a lecture on drugs by a detective from the Narcotics Bureau. Much to our surprise, he informed us of the progress of the use of marijuana among high school students. We were very puzzled. Next to us was another physician who, on the way out, told us: "If I had a notion of prescribing some herb gathered in my garden and chopped on the kitchen table, you would hear them protest from here to Washington. I would be barred from practicing." Now, in that country where the FDA prides itself on checking meticulously every single new medicine,

nobody was concerned about what there might be in this herb which (without our knowing) was smoked in our children's high school! I was then engaged in pharmacological research, but I did not know a thing about hash. It was that evening, under the impression of what I had heard, that I decided to interest myself in the chemical components of hash and their effects.

[Question] I notice that sometimes you speak of hash and sometimes of marijuana...

[Answer] Well, one of the first things I learned when I read the literature on the subject is the variety of names which are used to designate chemically similar products, depending on the area of the world or on the use which is made of them. What they call "marijuana" in America is called "hashish" in Egypt, "kif" in Morocco, "bhang" in the East, etc. Just think that the UN Commission on Narcotics has established a multilingual list of 267 names of products which are smoked, chewed, or even used in preserves, and which all come from the same plant, "Cannabis sativa."

[Question] Why "sativa"? Are there several types of "cannabis"?

[Answer] Yes, there are two varieties of "Cannabis sativa."¹ The variety called "hemp" was used to make ropes and fibers before synthetic fibers were known. It was very common at the time of the large fleets of sail ships. It used to cover large areas in Europe and in the temperate zones of the earth. This variety contains very little intoxicating substances in its inflorescences, and farmers in our climates have never used it to get intoxicated. The drug-containing variety, on the other hand, has been growing for a long time in the tropical zones of our planet; it is grown solely for the intoxicating substance contained in its flowers.

[Question] And who used its known intoxicating action?

[Answer] It seems that the first who became aware of this property were the Chinese. But they never used it to get intoxicated. They used it as a medicine, over 2,000 years ago. This is quite typical of them: neither the Chinese nor the Japanese get intoxicated. Buddha is the only religious leader to have written among his precepts: "You shall not use any substance which might intoxicate your soul..." And I believe that this commandment has been followed to a large extent... In fact, you know, it is the West which tried to make the Chinese use opium; they did not want it! The Hindus, however, did not follow this commandment and have used bhang for its "psycho-tropic" action, as we say today.

[Question] For what purpose? To encourage meditation?

[Answer] Yes, because hemp intoxication gives a very peculiar feeling, very different from that which results from alcohol intoxication. It is accom-

1. The plant was named by Linnaeus. "Cannabis" means "reed" in latin, and "sativa" means "sowed," which indicates that this is an annual.

panied by a feeling of euphoria, of sedation, reinforced by more acute sensory perceptions. It gives you the feeling of being a part of the universe. A Hindu poet from before the Christian era has very well summed up this condition: "I took a puff of bhang and I felt myself becoming like God. What a result for such a venial sin!" Besides, the notion of sin disappeared very rapidly and the brahmans, i.e. the Hindu priests, began drinking bhang during their religious ceremonies, precisely to feel nearer to God; this is typical of Hindu rites which attempt to unify and refuse the dichotomy of sin.

[Question] And the Arabs?

[Answer] The herb reached the Middle East much later. According to Arab historians, it appeared between the 10th and the 12th centuries. It is reported to have been brought to Arabia by the Mongols. And in Islam, between the 12th and the 16th century, there was a great controversy among the erudites of the time concerning the actual importance and the role of the plant. Some said that it made individuals more peaceful and more pleasant to deal with; others maintained that it had been brought to earth by the devil to corrupt society by attacking man's physical and mental health. And finally (but only after four centuries of debating!) the controversy ended up in a condemnation. Unfortunately, it came somewhat too late and, above all, it was not written in the Koran. Thence the ravages caused by hashish in Egypt. However, it is interesting to note that, even before the 15th century, the Arabs have experienced the same problems and the same passionate debates which the Americans and all Western countries after them are experiencing now!

[Question] Why do you mention Egypt more particularly?

[Answer] Because Egypt has been the first country to engage in a fight against that plague, but also--and one explains the other--because it was among the most severely affected. To such an extent that, as you know, when Bonaparte landed there with the expeditionary force in 1799, he found it necessary to protect his army. He passed a decree, somehow a historical landmark, stating that the liquor made with the inflorescences of a plant called hashish was absolutely banned on all of Egypt's territory... Regrettably, the Americans did not adopt the same policy while in Vietnam. Anyhow, there is another difference between the two periods. In Vietnam, the GI's became contaminated by the drug while in Bonaparte's time, and even much later, European colonists in Egypt and even elsewhere (for instance in Morocco) had made hash taboo. I know that for a fact because I spent part of my childhood in Egypt and I remember, when I was five or six, my father showing me a "hashishat" sleeping in the sun on the sidewalk: "Look at that man," he said, "he is a hashishat. Watch that drug; it destroys man..." This taboo had also been respected by the English who imported their whisky and port wine in India, but would never have touched that substance which was used only by the natives. It was symbolic of a certain sense of

decorum. You will say that the colonists would get drunk on whisky, which amounts to the same... Morally, you are probably right. But physiologically and sociologically, we now know that it is not the same at all.

[Question] So, precisely what do we know now, after 20 years of research on the effects of hash?

[Answer] First, it has been possible to isolate the toxic substance in the herb. It is designated by its initials: THC.¹ The reaction obtained by its absorption is a function of several factors, including an individual factor due solely to heredity and to what is called the "pharmacogenetic factor." Some people will be very sensitive to hash; others will tolerate large amounts: the difference may vary from 1 to 10 for a single dose. Another factor is that of environment. One among the first to discover it, in the 19th century, was the famous psychiatrist of Ile Saint-Louis in Paris, Jacques-Joseph Moreau, whom many consider to be the father of psychopharmacology. During the famous banquets he used to have with Theophile Gautier, Baudelaire and Alexandre Dumas, at Hotel Pimodan, he made experiments which he has related in detail. For instance, he had noticed--and Baudelaire and Gautier with him--that when you take hashish while listening to a light and pleasant music, you have a tendency to feel in a very good mood and very happy. On the contrary, if you are listening to an especially sad music, for instance a funeral march, hash will enhance the melancholy of the music.

[Question] Is there now a scientific explanation for this observation?

[Answer] Yes. Experiments on animals have now shown that THC affects that part of the brain which neurologists call the "rewarding zone of the brain" (or, more scientifically, the "endogenous reinforcement system"). When this system is activated by chemical substances taken in very small quantities, it gives you a feeling of pleasure and well-being. But at the same time, it affects all brain functions which become disorganized; certain functions, among which hearing, become exacerbated... The tale from the "Thousand and One Nights" about a genie escaping from a bottle into which it is impossible to make him go back is the poetical version of this phenomenon--another one being the tales of flying carpets.

[Question] Which indicates that the Persians used hashish...

[Answer] Definitely. And this is probably what prompted some authors to say that, after all, we should not complain about a drug which makes people happy and which is less dangerous than tobacco and alcohol. As I told you, I have always found this comparison shocking because it takes into account only the immediate, not the long-term effects.

1. The actual name is "delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol."

[Question] Alcohol and tobacco also have long-term effects which are quite well known now.

[Answer] Certainly, but quantitatively and qualitatively these are without common measure with the effects of hash. And this is what I was interested in. Being a pharmacologist myself, I started precisely by studying what is called the pharmacokinetics of THC, i.e. its time of retention in, and elimination from an organism: it takes 30 days for a single dose of THC to be eliminated, compared with only 6 hours for a single dose of alcohol! You understand, then, how misleading it is to compare hash with alcohol. To give you an idea, if you take the same amount of THC or cannabis every day for a month, even a very small amount, it will have been multiplied by 10 after one month! I began to be concerned when I saw in the laboratory that THC had a negative effect on the manner in which cells divide themselves and function. In fact, THC prevents the formation of nucleic acids which are essential for cell division. This fundamental property not only of THC, but also of the products of its transformation in the organism, explains its many effects at various levels: lungs, brain and reproductive functions. And this rewarding zone of the brain, which creates the euphoria we have just mentioned, plays an essential role in the destabilization of the sexual functions by hash; this is one of the most fascinating interfaces of modern medicine... Roger Guillemin, the French-American Nobel prize winner, has shown that this hypothalamus zone of the brain contains substances which, in infinitesimal amounts, are ordering the pituitary gland to secrete the hormones controlling sexual functions, for instance. However, in concentrations of the order of one billionth of a gram, THC will depress this zone and prevent the transmission of these messages and the steady production of sexual hormones. In man and in woman, this will result in anomalies in germinal cell maturation, sperm in man, ovules in woman. In animals, single daily doses of this substance will result in a diminution of sperm quantity and quality and, in females, in retarded ovulation or cycles without ovules. To this we should add the secondary effect due to the accumulation of THC transformation products in the organism, which can have a direct effect on the development of the germinal cell. Therefore, the effect is twofold: a central effect on the brain, and a peripheral effect on the cell.

[Question] Does this mean that such experiments have already been made on man?

[Answer] Yes, although most of them are made on animals, especially monkeys who are so close to man physiologically. To make a monkey smoke, it is placed in a sort of incubator where the pressure is alternately negative and positive; this forces the animal to breathe the smoke through a mask closely applied to its face. An analysis of hash derivatives produced in the blood indicates that the levels reached are similar to those measured in man.

[Question] And where do you get the cannabis?

[Answer] In the United States, there is a farm surrounded by barbed wires and watch-towers, where various varieties of cannabis are cultivated and made available to researchers. From these plants, THC and other cannabinoids are extracted; this is less costly than obtaining them by synthesis. Thus, researchers all over the world can obtain cannabis, the various constituents of which have been analyzed; this enables quantitative experiments.

[Question] And how did you come to experimenting on man?

[Answer] We have been asking volunteers to smoke. I have contributed to these experiments, made at Columbia University. The volunteers were young men, from 18 to 30 years old, who habitually smoked 5 to 10 marijuana cigarettes per day. It is on them that we have found a deterioration of spermatogenesis. Other researchers who have studied young women have shown that they experienced a reduction of the last phase of their cycle as well as cycles without ovulation. Negative effects on the offspring have not yet been reported in the case of man. However, they have been observed on four different species of animals. Gravid females treated with THC or cannabis extracts have given birth to abnormal litters.

[Question] How were the young affected?

[Answer] In guenons, for instance, there were four times as many aborted fetus as in the untreated female. The surviving newborns weighed less than normal and their behavior was abnormal, indicating that the nervous system had been affected. The effect of THC on the offspring is exerted through the placenta, the mother's organism nourishing the fetus, where THC is deposited. It is also through the mother's brain that cannabis is going to exert its destructive effect, first on the embryo, then on the fetus: the brain controls the production of sexual hormones which are essential to a good placental circulation. In addition, THC accumulates in the ovaries. Based on this data, I believe that one should sound the alarm when young girls are using cannabis as frequently as is the case in America.

[Question] Then, how do you explain the hesitations of American public opinion, and the fact that certain States have gone so far as to decriminalize cannabis?

[Answer] Under decriminalization, which has indeed been adopted in a number of States, there are still penalties for selling cannabis, but not any more for using it in private. This is a cause of great ambiguity because it is difficult to make a distinction between consumers and small-scale dealers. It also causes ambiguity especially in the minds of young people: smoking it is allowed, selling it is forbidden. Then, where can you get it?

[Question] At what time did hash appear in America?

[Answer] During the 1930's, with jazz musicians from New Orleans. It had been introduced in New Orleans from Mexico, where it grows naturally. It

used to be smoked in restricted circles before World War II, especially in the New York area, and in large urban areas where jazz musicians had their circuit. At the time, this had even prompted the mayor of New York, La Guardia, to make an enquiry into the effects of hash on the physical and mental health of its users. Then, there was the war, and people forgot about this use, which had been rather limited. The Americans had other things to worry about, and hash was not mentioned again until the late 1950's. At the time, I was a student in the United States where I was preparing for a doctorate in science, and there was no marijuana or hash on the campus at all. We were not even allowed to drink beer, such was the puritanism of the times. It is only in the 1960's that hash experienced a renewal of popularity, especially among students. It was a part of that new lifestyle associated with extreme economic prosperity and the search for instant gratification obtained without effort.

It was the time when long trips to the East became popular; there, in a spirit very different from that of the former colonists, the young would be in contact with the native population who smoked. They would bring back hash. Parallel to this, this was also a period of extremely permissive morals. You could see the paradoxical situation of a country so concerned about its citizens' health that saccharin or substances used to color butter were banned, while the infinitely much more serious damages caused by hash were ignored. It is true, too, that a powerful lobby will launch virulent attacks on all those who state that cannabis is dangerous. This lobby has enormous means at its disposal since cannabis trade amounts to some 30 to 40 billion dollars per year. It has a network of specialized newspapers which promote cocaine and cannabis. Newspapers--HIGH TIMES for instance, which looks like an ordinary magazine with a lot of pictures and advertizing--tell you how you can grow cannabis in a closet, how to extract the active substance, and they offer all types of accessories to get intoxicated better, on marijuana or cocaine.

[Question] But these newspapers can be published only in those States where the use of cannabis is allowed, can't they?

[Answer] They are published everywhere! In the Sunday edition of the NEW YORK TIMES, in the editorial section, they have even published a full-page ad for HIGH TIMES! Cannabis has given birth to an industry specializing in accessories, with 30,000 points of sales and a turnover of 1 to 2 billion dollars: sales of cigarette paper, which had nearly disappeared in the United States, have experienced a boom thanks to marijuana.

[Question] Where does the cannabis come from? Is not its free cultivation prohibited?

[Answer] It is, by a UN convention. But it is impossible to have it implemented in those states which retain a somewhat feudal structure, such as Morocco, for instance, or Iran under the shah, or Lebanon. On the other hand, in those countries where Islam is making a comeback, dealers are put

to death. It should be said that, at the time of colonialism, the colonists were not hostile to cannabis cultivation, especially in the Rif mountains. At the time of Abd-el-Krim's uprising, in the 1930's, when the Berber chief managed to drive away the Spanish, the first thing he did in the Rif was to eliminate the kif crops. But when the Spanish came back, with the help of the French, they allowed them again. And today, the Rif supplies kif not only to the Moroccans, but to France and all Europe. This is why legalization is an especially serious matter: if you legalize this substance, you will in the end have placed an extremely cheap intoxicant within everybody's reach--kif is cheaper per weight than tomatoes and just as easy to grow.

[Question] What is the present situation in America?

[Answer] For the past 10 years, the U.S. Congress has not stopped considering the problem. First, under the pressure of lobbies asking for decriminalization; these were so powerful that, in 1977, President Carter asked for marijuana to be decriminalized at the federal level. This bill was never passed into law and now Carter, this time under pressure from another group--parents, teachers and some physicians--is reversing his course. Therefore, we see a backlash due, on the one hand, to scientific studies and, on the other hand, to pressure from parents and teachers who are increasingly alarmed by the extent to which young people use this substance.

[Question] You said "some physicians." Does that mean that not all of them agree?

[Answer] That is true, especially of psychiatrists. But most biologists now agree. Those who do not agree are sociologists and psychologists, for ideological reasons. As Baudelaire wrote so well in his "Poeme du Hashish," it is his craving for the infinite which induces man to take this substance. This craving for the infinite is anchored in the brain of man who will always strive to go beyond himself. But we must assess the dangers of using drugs for the immediate gratification of this craving for the infinite. This is the great danger of all drug addictions. Baudelaire understood that and, after mentioning the craving for the infinite, he describes his perceptions under the influence of hash in the chapter entitled "L'Homme-Dieu" ["The God-Man"]. Under the influence of hashish, Baudelaire says, man feels nearer to God, superior to other men. He thinks he has experienced something which others should experience to become his equals. And then he finds it difficult to play an active role in society; he finds it difficult to work, to take responsibilities. "It is forbidden to man, under penalty of moral decay and intellectual death, to disturb the conditions essential for his existence and to disrupt the balance of his faculties."

[Question] What is your personal opinion?

[Answer] I had trouble understanding Baudelaire until a personal experience showed me what he meant. I had written an article for the NEW YORK TIMES. After warning the reader against the dangers of using hash, I invited him

to search for more tangible pleasures which would give him, not only euphoria, but also an intellectual and spiritual satisfaction. Since hash gives happiness, as Moreau says, look rather, I wrote, for the euphoria which Bach can give you, that great musician whose music can transport you into another world. Three days later, I received a very short letter: "Dear Professor Nahas... With all due respect, may I ask one question: 'Have you ever listened to a Brandenburg Concerto while you were high?...' Sincerely." It was signed: "Jo X..., student at Columbia, 18 years old." Well, this young man was telling me, in his own way, what Baudelaire says in "L'Homme-Dieu." He was talking down to me. In substance, he was saying: "Poor old man, you don't understand! You don't know what it is..."

[Question] You mean that Bach is still more beautiful with marijuana?

[Answer] In his opinion, yes. And this is precisely what is so serious and may well destroy not only men but also man's society, as the doctors of Islam thought it might five centuries ago.

9294
CS0:5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

FRENCH TANGIERS CANNABIS SEIZURE--Customs officials at Sete seized 82.5 kilos of cannabis resin hidden in a light truck when the Tangiers car ferry "Agadir" arrived yesterday. [Excerpt] [LD280957 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 23 Feb 80 p 10 LD]

CSO: 5300

GREECE

NETWORK OF COCAINE, ADDICT PEDDLERS ARRESTED

Athens I VRADYNI in Greek 15 Jan 80 p 7

[Article by Il. Malatos: "Cocaine Sold in 'Hangouts' of Kolonaki"]

[Text] A network of international narcotics smuggling, involving Greek criminals, has been uncovered by officers of the Suburbs Security. The people involved are Andreas P. Sakellariou, 54 years old, from Patrai and currently a resident at 48 Aiglis Street, Kypseli, who has been arrested, and Kyriakos Gr. Tokouroglou, 36 years old, a resident of Nea Ionia, who is on the wanted list.

Both men are international smugglers, who have been active in Turkey, Italy, the Netherlands, and England. They were trafficking in the hard and stimulant narcotic, cocaine.

Mr Sakellariou was arrested a few days ago, and he was found to have hidden 45 grams of cocaine in his underwear. He himself confessed that he also gave 10 grams of the same narcotic to Tokouroglou. Sakellariou had bought 55 grams of cocaine in Rome last December, for \$1,500.

The seller of the cocaine in Rome is a well-known international narcotics smuggler who is now being hunted, following a message received by the Suburbs Security from Interpol.

They were selling the cocaine in Athens for 7,000 drachmas per gram, and their buyers were addicts of frugal appearance! The criminals disposed of the narcotic at "hangouts" in Kolonaki and at entertainment centers frequented by the so-called high society!

And since the narcotic in question is a stimulant, middle-aged and older people use it in order to satisfy their desires with young women who sell love. The network of smugglers had agents in well-known entertainment centers, bars, and hotels, where they have disposed of the cocaine for 800,000 drachmas per kilogram!

Cocaine is available in countries of Latin America, from where it is "smuggled" to Europe by special handlers. And since this hard narcotic

has thus been "put in circulation" in the marketplace, the smugglers are also involved in exchanging it for hashish in countries where this is produced, such as Turkey.

International Activity

In 1973, Sakellariou was arrested in Monaco for possession of 10 kilograms of the scarce narcotic "morphine base," from which heroin is produced. He was sentenced to 7 years of imprisonment, being released from prison in May 1979, at which time he was deported. Starting in October, he began once again his associations with smugglers in Turkey, the Netherlands, Italy, and England.

He is a "society" type and a dangerous "liar," as he was characterized by the Suburbs Security officers Kartsonakis and Raptis. He has been present as a guest at many social gatherings, where he also used to peddle narcotics.

Tokouroglou, who is wanted by the police, is himself an international criminal. In 1973 he was arrested in Monaco and sentenced to prison for 3 1/2 years for transporting quantities of hashish.

On 29 November 1977, Tokouroglou was arrested again in Vienna, this time because he was in possession of 5 1/2 kilograms of heroin and 2 kilograms of hashish oil.

And a Couple

Meanwhile, Mikhail Kh. Kotouglou, 26 years old, and his girlfriend, Smaragda A. Kritikou, 28 years old, have been arrested by the Athens Security for possession of heroin and hashish.

In a period of 2 months, this couple made three trips to Turkey, from where they carried away heroin. In their house in Galatsion, 16 grams of heroin were found, while Kritikou was found to have hidden in her brassiere 17 grams of hashish and 1/2 gram of heroin. The police also impounded 170,000 drachmas. Proceedings were already being taken against Kotouglou through a warrant of arrest, again for narcotics.

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CSO: 5300

ICELAND

NARCOTICS POLICE ARREST TWO IN PHARMACY PILL THEFT

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 17 Jan 80 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Thieves Identified in Large Pill Theft"]

[Text] In recent months an investigation of drug selling and narcotics has been carried out by the Investigations Department for Narcotics in Reykjavik, in close cooperation with the State Investigations Police, according to information obtained by MORGUNBLADID from Gudmundur Gigja, law officer in the Narcotics Division.

In the beginning, the traffic and sale of small quantities of cannabis were brought to light.

After a search, pills were discovered which directed the investigation to an unsolved pill theft from a pharmacy. This crime was earlier the object of investigation by State Investigations Police and, for reasons mentioned above, the matter was associated with the Narcotics Division.

The above-mentioned thieves have been suspected also of extensive distribution of pills and presently 60 suspected customers have been interrogated. Two men are now in detention on account of the investigation, one for 50 days. The matter will next be sent to the State Prosecutor's Office.

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CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

COCAINE USE ON UPSWING IN SWITZERLAND

Geneva JOURNAL DE GENEVE in French 23 Jan 80 p 11

[Text] Berne, 22 Jan (ATS)--According to several narcotics brigades, Switzerland may be on the point of becoming a country with a large consumption of cocaine. Unlike heroin, cocaine is not negotiated in the street, but is consumed exclusively by young drug addicts. Moreover, it would seem that cocaine is a drug that is also taken by well-off circles, for recreational purposes.

While in recent years virtually no consumption of this drug has been noted, it is strikingly increasing, the chief of the Bale-Ville narcotics brigade told the ATS. Moreover, the demand seems to be already organized in this connection.

Cocaine consumption has been established chiefly in the Bale canton, but also in French Switzerland. It is rather difficult at present to fight the drug, because only a few facts on the subject are known, and because the consumption is discreet.

However, the experts are not at all surprised at the wave of cocaine. The United States for years has been submerged in cocaine that comes from Latin America. In that case it is possible to speak of a "popular epidemic." Trade is carried out only through international networks of drug merchants, which means that the drug arrives in Europe--and so in Switzerland--by way of the United States.

Circles in Switzerland that deal with drug addicts have not yet established an increased consumption of cocaine. This is due to the fact that it is consumed in privileged circles, but it is also because more time is needed for dependence to be established. But more and more circles are consuming cocaine instead of heroin.

According to a study conducted by the security police of Frankfurt in West Germany, it would seem that cocaine was being consumed particularly in prostitution circles as well as in private clubs, where it replaced, or enhanced the effects of, amphetamines. A stimulating effect was noticed in women, and a lessening of potency in men.

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UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE--Customs officers at Gatwick Airport believe they have smashed an international drug-smuggling operation after the seizure of cocaine with an estimated street value of 433,000 pounds sterling. Two and a half kilos of the drug were found in the baggage of a British man who had travelled from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The find on Monday afternoon came in a spot check by customs officers. "This was a reasonably big haul and we understand that this is part of a bigger operation," a customs and excise spokesman said today. "We have information which leads us to assume that this was not the first run to be made. We did not have a tip-off about this. The cocaine was found during part of the normal customs operation at Gatwick." The man was held at Gatwick and later four other people were arrested at houses in south east and west London. Four men--three Britons and a Brazilian--and a British woman were later being questioned by customs officers. [Text] [LD270550 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1610 GMT 26 Feb 80 LD]

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